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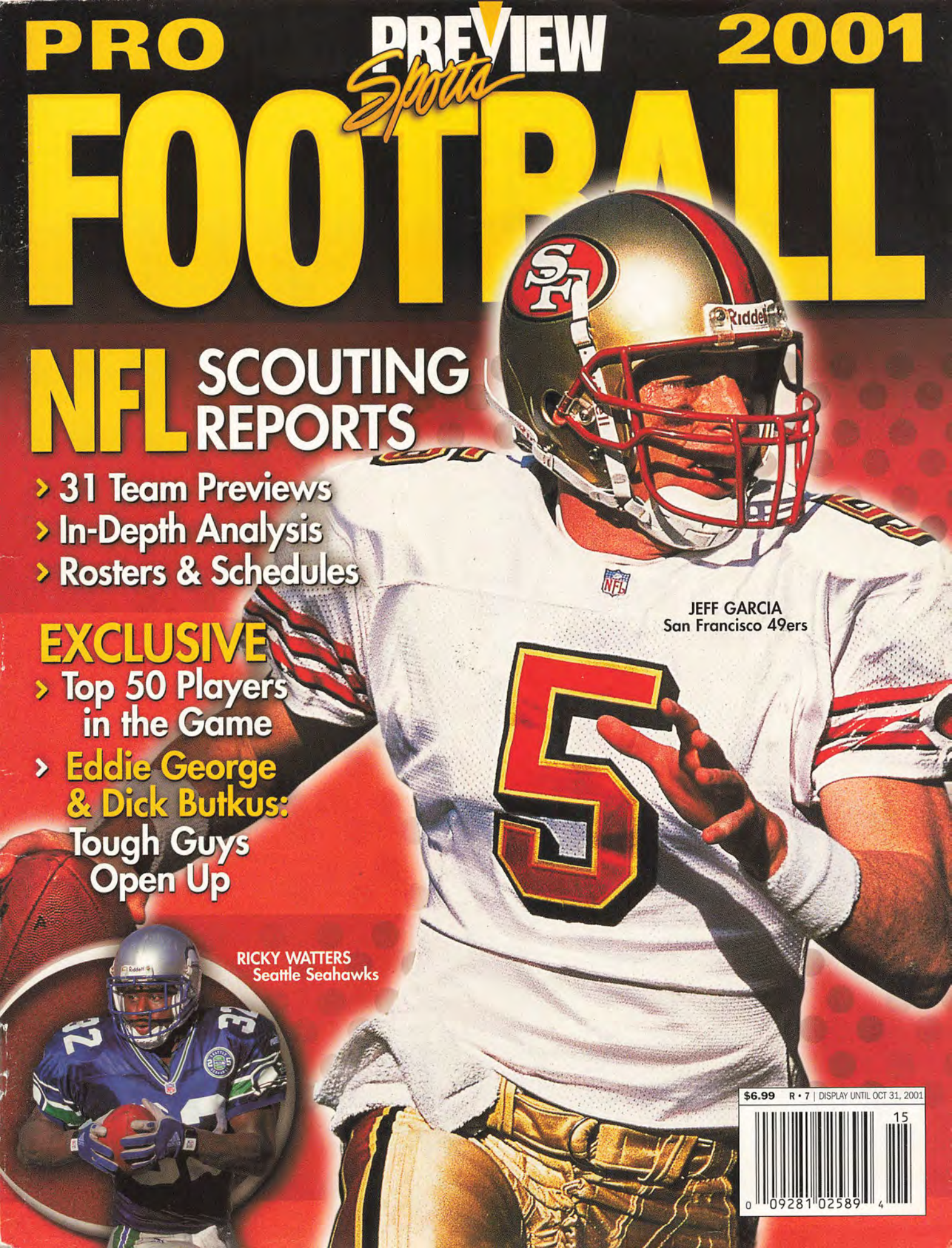

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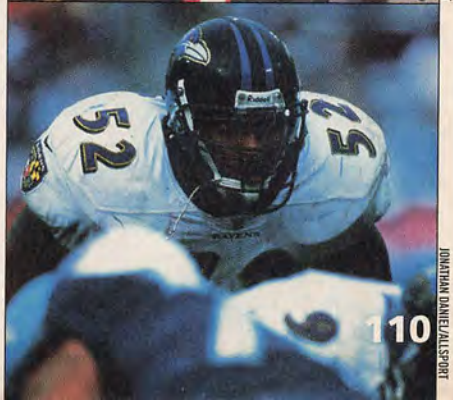

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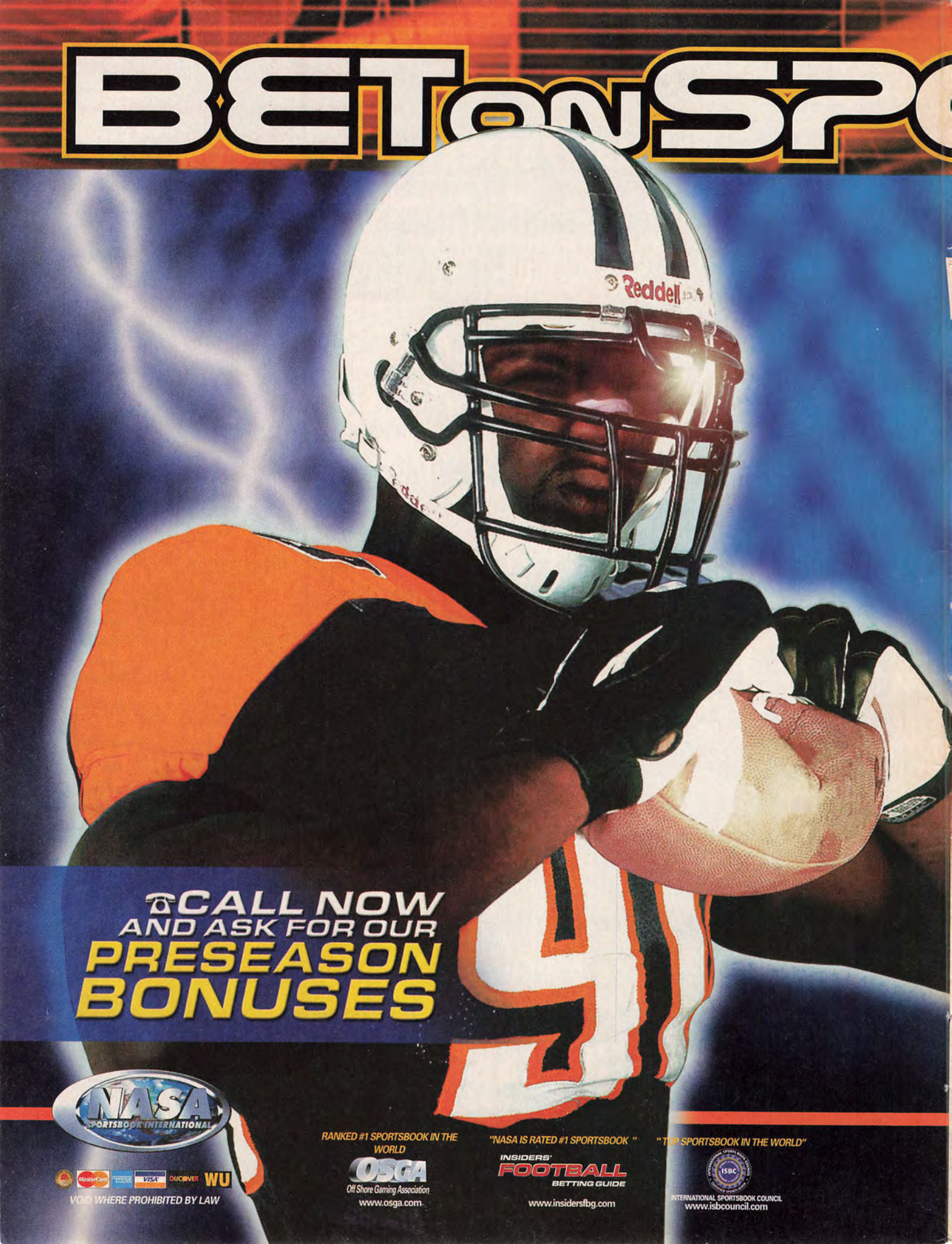
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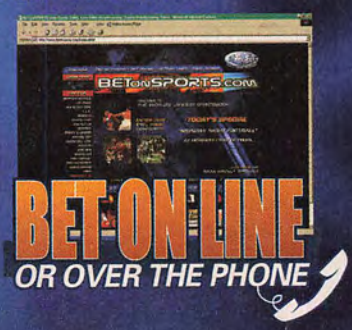


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ED McGREGOR
*EDITOR-IN-CHIEF*

## EDITOR'S NOTE

# For Pete's Sake, NFL Now Anybody's Game

It's almost as if Pete Rozelle is whispering in God's ear, "How about the Eagles this year?" God nods, then asks Pete to explain the playoff tiebreaker system one last time.

Surely, the late NFL commissioner and proponent of parity has something to do with the state of pro football. I mean, c'mon, show of hands: Who picked the Ravens to win the Super Bowl last season? Or the Rams the year before? Don't lie now. God—and Pete Rozelle—are watching.

In the new-era NFL, the traditional powers are out. Cowboys, Bears and Steelers—get out of Dodge. There are new sheriffs in NFL towns, and their names are Manning, McNabb, Culpepper, Garcia and, before long, Vick. The Georgia Dome will be buzzing this year thanks to the presence of Michael 2, though the din may die down if all he's doing for the Falcons is holding a clipboard. After leaving Virginia Tech at age 20, Vick has 62 million reasons to smile. But now comes the hard part: earning all that cash.

While the Falcons figure to struggle until Vick learns Dan Reeves' playbook, the Colts, Bucs, Saints and Eagles are moving on up faster than the Jeffersons. But no NFL fans need despair, because any team—well, maybe not the Bengals, who, if the NFL were *The Weakest Link*, would have done the Walk of Shame by now—can go from the outhouse to the penthouse in the time it takes Trent Dilfer to slip on a championship ring. Just ask Dick Vermeil or Brian Billick.

Underdog fever. Catch it. It lasts for a year or so. Today's NFL is certainly not major league baseball, where the Yankees have now won, what, 42 straight World Series.

Vermeil, who coached the Rams to that storybook Super Bowl XXXIV triumph, will try to do it again in the Show-Me State, this time in Kansas City. He's one of six new head coaches in the league. For a preview of how they might fare, try my fool-proof method of new coach forecasting: Each one's win total will match the number of syllables in his name. So, Butch Davis will have a tough season in Cleveland. (Told you it works.) Marty Schottenheimer's Redskins will win six games, and Marty Mornhinweg's Lions ... well, at least by season's end we'll know how many syllables there are in Mornhinweg, if not how to actually pronounce it.

Of course, a far better way to prepare for kickoff is to check out our comprehensive team previews, beginning on page 38. Each one includes projected lineups, position analysis and ratings, draft insight and grades, 2001 roster and schedule, and 2000 results and stats. Who's geared up for a championship run? Who has more dead money than Jerry Garcia? Who signed the ex-FL's leading rusher? (By the way, if anyone has cap room left, He Hate Me might still be available.) Who drafted Rutgers' quarterback after the Scarlet Knights' 0-7 Big East showing? It's all there.

And don't skip the Extra Points box on the final page of each preview. They provide the pulse of that team, offering insight on the Player to Watch, a Matchup not to be Missed, the Key Stat and the Glue Guy who holds it all together.

In Tennessee, that's Eddie George, who is one Titan Denzel Washington would have loved to have on his team. Any coach would. The guy ran the ball more than 400 times last year. In five seasons he has never missed a game, which is good for the Titans because they can't live without him. Check out Larry Woody's profile of Tennessee's tough guy on page 18.

Entering training camp, the burning question in the NFL is the same one posed by Lenny Kravitz: Are You Gonna Go My Way? The Ravens won with a dominant defense last year and the Rams with an overpowering offense the season before. Well, what's it going to be this season? Barry Wilner examines the Balance of Power on page 22.

This debate may not be decided until Super Bowl XXXVI, which we're predicting will be the ultimate showdown for NFL supremacy between the Ravens and Rams. Of course, if Pete Rozelle has anything to do with it, and we're pretty sure he does, we could get the Saints-Seahawks. That'll work, too.

Are your palms sweating yet? The NFL season is almost here.

Ed McGregor

BRIAN BAHR/ALLSPORT

***When Dilfer hoisted the Super Bowl trophy last January, 30 other teams had to think, Hey, we're next.***

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# Red Zone Report

## Football News for the Serious Fan

By Larry Weisman

### Blood Feuds

Those two big circles on Mike Shanahan's calendar? Those are the dates of the Denver Broncos' annual punchouts with the Oakland Raiders. Rivalries drive the NFL, and this one, dating to the old AFL, ranks among the fiercest in the league.

Of course, it's not just NFL history that spurs Shanahan—it's personal history. Shanahan's first head coaching job was with the Raiders in 1988. Oakland owner Al Davis went outside the Raider family to replace Tom Flores and brought in Shanahan, then Denver's offensive coordinator, in a move he expected would help his club and hurt the Broncos. But Davis and Shanahan never meshed. A 7-9 debut season set up a quick firing in '89 with the Raiders 1-3; Davis promoted Art Shell, and Shanahan would later accuse Davis of failing to pay him in full.

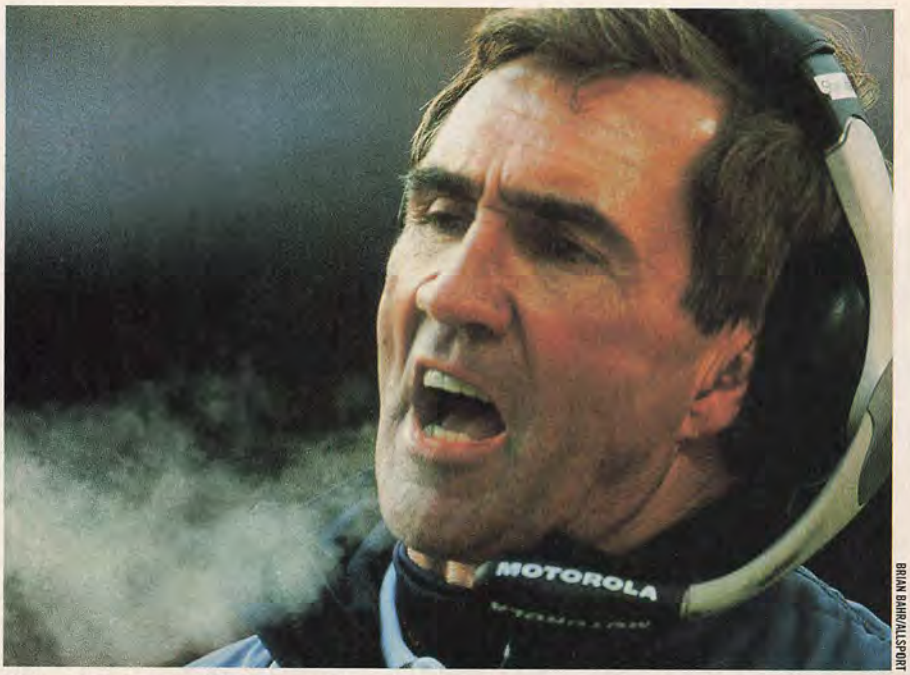
Shanahan continues to pay Davis back, however. Hired as head coach by Denver in 1995, Shanahan has not only won two Super Bowls, he has engineered seven consecutive wins over the Raiders and 11 victories in 12 meetings. So you too will want to mark Nov. 5 and Dec. 30 in your datebook.

And don't forget a few of the NFL's other passion-filled get-togethers. Like that nasty Buffalo-San Diego rivalry. Missed that one, did you? Well, when general manager John Butler rejected a series of contract proposals from Bills owner Ralph Wilson last December, Wilson simply fired him. It didn't much matter. Butler's departure for San Diego was widely expected around the league. But Wilson took it hard. Check his calendar, and there's a big red ring around Oct. 28. Yep, Bills at Chargers.

"I'd rather beat the Chargers this year than win the Super Bowl," Wilson fumed to the Rochester (N.Y.) *Democrat and Chronicle*.

This from a man in his 80s, whose team went to four consecutive Super Bowls and lost them all?

For subtext, let's throw in the bad feelings between quarterbacks Doug Flutie and Rob Johnson. The feisty Flutie lost the war for the affections of new Bills general manager Tom Donahoe and new coach Gregg Williams. Flutie was released, only to sign with Butler and the Chargers.




BRIAN BAHR/ALLSPORT

***When it comes to his rivalry with the Raiders, Broncos coach Shanahan breathes fire.***

While you've got the felt-tip marker handy, wrap a concentric ring around these dates and games:

✖ **Sept. 23:** Tennessee at Jacksonville. Pure passion. The three whuppings the Titans laid on the Jaguars in 1999 still sting.

✖ **Sept. 30:** Kansas City at Washington. Marty Schottenheimer's old team against his new one. Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil advised Schottenheimer to listen to Skins owner Daniel Snyder's pitch after Schottenheimer proclaimed on ESPN he could never work for such a busybody.

✖ **Nov. 12:** Baltimore at Tennessee. The trash talk that goes with this one beats just about anything except professional wrestling. And it's on a Monday night. Expect Dennis Miller to come up with a ridiculous reference to an ancient blood feud. Watch anyway.

✖ **Nov. 26:** Tampa Bay at St. Louis. These two put on a great show late last season at Tampa. Now they take it indoors on a Monday night. The Bucs improved their offense by signing QB Brad Johnson. The Rams worked hard to bolster their defense by using three No. 1 draft picks on that side of the ball. Dennis Miller will come up with some obscure reference to self-improvement. Watch anyway.

✖ **Dec. 17:** Rams at New Orleans. Though the Rams were the team no one wanted to face, the Saints KO'd St. Louis in the playoffs for the franchise's first postseason win ever.

✖ **Dec. 30:** New York Giants at Philadelphia. This one won't be pretty. The Giants go into the 2001 season with nine consecutive victories against the Iggles.

We're not much for making noise about preseason games, but the Aug. 31 meeting in St. Louis between the Rams and Chiefs should be fun. Vermeil against his old team, Trent Green versus Kurt Warner, the two Missouri teams banging heads. There's a lot of unhappiness in St. Louis over Vermeil's one-year retirement and his return just a few hours down I-70. And as we said, rivalries drive the NFL.

## Vick, as in No. 1 Pick

A month before the draft, Atlanta coach Dan Reeves couldn't find enough bad things to say about underclassmen ditching college for the NFL. Michael Vick was shaping up as the No. 1 overall pick by San Diego, but the Falcons were always rumored to have an interest in the 20-year-old quarterback. Yet here's what Reeves said about draft entrants with shortened college pedigrees:

"I've never been in favor of those guys coming out of college early. I just think it's a sad situation that we are forced to take underclassmen. I'd like to see them finish their college and get that maturity that they need. There's always that risk of injury if they stay in college, but it's always been that way. We really don't have any say-so in it, as far as the league is concerned, because we can't win that lawsuit. There's guys who are talented, and maybe they can handle it from the athletic standpoint, but I think the maturity is so much a factor."

So much for the abstract world. In the real one, the Falcons traded the fifth overall selection, a third-round pick, their second-round pick next year and speedy receiver/returner Tim Dwight for the first pick and the right to choose Vick, the lefthanded sophomore quarterback from Virginia Tech.

Here's Reeves after the fact: "This is great for this franchise and great for this city because this is an exceptional talent. This is a young man who comes along, in my opinion, just every now and then."

Right. He should be coming along in about a year or two. But he's here now.

Too bad for the Houston Texans. The expansion team joins the NFL next year, and with the No. 1 overall pick thought it would have a shot at Vick or Michigan quarterback Drew Henson. Now, Vick is a Falcon, and Henson quit the Wolverines this spring to play pro baseball.

But the Texans need not worry. If QB Chris Simms decides to come out early, he's a certain No. 1 pick (though father Phil said he wants the lad to stay at the University of Texas). Oregon quarterback Joey Harrington could be a No. 1 pick. And USC's Carson Palmer also bears watching.

For Vick, escaping San Diego means dodging a lifetime of comparisons with Ryan Leaf, the spectacular bust chosen second overall (just after Perfect and Productive Peyton Manning) in 1998. Not that moribund Atlanta won't want gaudy statistics sooner rather than later.

"I understand there will be pressure," Vick says, "but the only way I can handle that is to go out there and do what I know how to do. And that is play football. One thing they have to understand is that I am not going to be able to go out there and make things happen in one game. I think it is going to take some time, and I want people to understand that."

Chris Chandler remains the starter, but he's 35. Reeves said he wants to put in packages that can get Vick on the field every week.

## Rice and Bean Counters

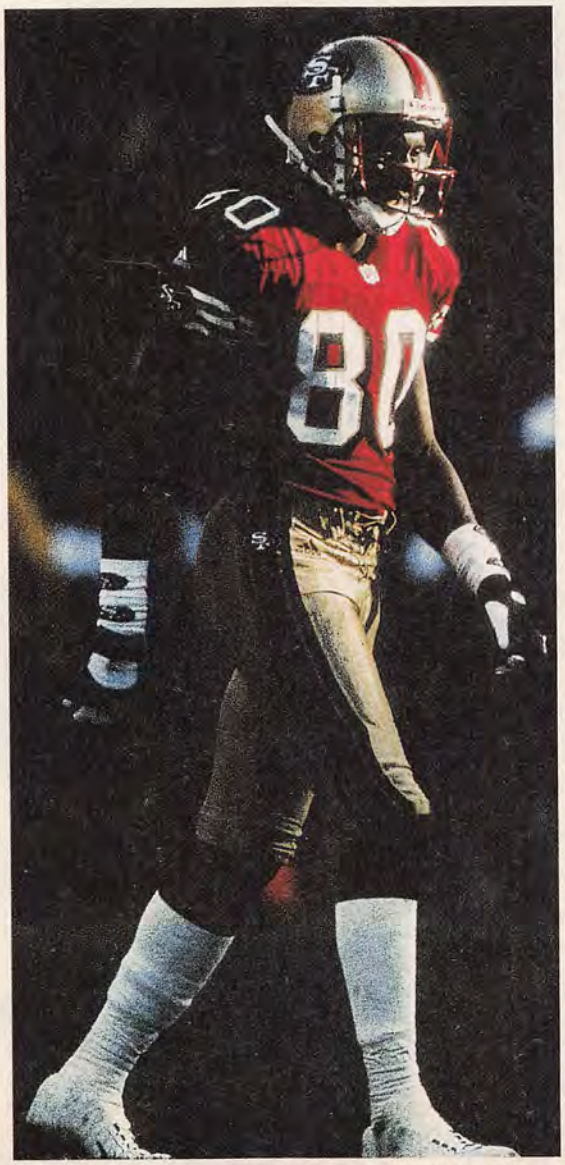
There are certain sights not made for the human eye:

1. Sausage being made.
2. Rosie O'Donnell in bicycle shorts.
3. Jerry Rice in a football uniform other than San Francisco's.

We can avoid the bratwurst factory and tune out daytime TV. No problem there. But watching the NFL will mean seeing Rice, the NFL's greatest receiver of all time, dressed is some other team's togs.

In June Rice was released by the 49ers, for whom he had played since 1985. Blame his age (39 in October), the salary cap (that all-purpose devil), his contract and cap number (inflated by too many renegotiations). Blame the Niners for not figuring out how to keep him. Blame Rice for not retiring. But, like John Unitas and Joe Namath before him, Rice will go out wearing the colors of a team for which he did nothing great.

It almost makes you want to watch Rosie O'Donnell tour the sausage plant. While she's wearing bicycle shorts.



HARRY HOW/ALLSPORT

***We'll see Rice in a new light—and uni—this season.***

## A Coach's Catch-22

The head coach in waiting is still waiting.

Marvin Lewis, whose Baltimore Ravens defense last year set an NFL record for fewest points allowed in a 16-game season, had all the earmarks of a hot prospect. Successful and personable, Lewis appeared to be a lock for either the Buffalo or Cleveland head job after the Ravens manhandled the New York Giants 34-7 in Super Bowl XXXV.

It never happened. Buffalo turned quickly to Gregg Williams, Tennessee's defensive coordinator. Cleveland, rebuffed earlier by Butch Davis, renewed its appeal and signed him away from the University of Miami the day after the Ravens' big win.

So Lewis is back with the Ravens, and the NFL rules that restricted him (and Giants defensive coordinator John Fox) to no interviews while his team was still alive in the postseason remain unchanged. The league's competition committee looked into ways to open up the process but couldn't find any. The obvious one was to allow interviews in the "off" week before Super Bowl week, but due to scheduling necessities, there isn't one in either of the next two seasons.

Racism? Well, Lewis is black and Fox is white, but Lewis was clearly the leading candidate.

TODD WARSHAW/ALLSPORT

***Though his Cards won only once for him in 2000, McGinnis has his players' respect.***

Arizona, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, expansion Houston, Kansas City, the New York Jets and Washington made coaching changes during last season or after. This was not the finest hour for equal opportunity. Terry Robiskie, the Redskins interim coach, was replaced by Marty Schottenheimer. Herman Edwards got the Jets job, bringing the number of current black head coaches to three ... out of 32.

## Raising Arizona

The best and worst thing said about Arizona coach Dave McGinnis is the same thing: The players love you.

Often, the term "player's coach" connotes one with footprints up his front and down his back, left by his team walking all over him. But McGinnis looks at it another way.

"It's a matter of respect and a matter of being honest. I'm going to lay myself out emotionally in front of them, and I'm not going to be afraid to expose what I feel," he says. "I don't want to do anything superficially. I think they know, because I've demonstrated it on numerous occasions, that I can make the hard call and the tough decision."

The players rallied around McGinnis last season when he replaced Vince Tobin after seven games, but they won only once for him, 17-16 against Washington. "When you take things over in mid-stream, it's not because things are going well," McGinnis says.

At that point of the season, the Cardinals needed something no coach could provide. As McGinnis puts it, "I couldn't heal their bodies."

## The X Factor

News flash: Someone went broke underestimating the taste of the American public. It's hard to believe that the sucker born every minute was Vince McMahon.

McMahon, the major domo of professional wrestling, created a football league intended to mirror his other "sports entertainment" product. NBC, still chafed that it lost its NFL TV contract, went in with him.

The result? The XFL. Football with an attitude, played by people who had little else. Turned out that the audience wanted football, not sideshows. The curiosity factor drove attendance and TV ratings for exactly one week. By season's end, NBC's call letters stood for NoBody Cares. The broadcast of the championship game tied for 93rd place among prime-time shows that week, and losses ran into the tens of millions.

Not surprisingly, the league went under after just one season, making the old USFL look like a rousing success in hindsight.

**XFL Highlights (such as they were):**

✖ Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura serving as an announcer.

✖ Los Angeles XTreme QB Tommy Maddox resurrecting his career after two years away from the NFL.

✖ He Hate Me

**Lowlights:**

✖ All of the above.

The X did serve one purpose. It gave some marginal players one more showcase, and the NFL signed about 80 of them. The downside: One was Maddox.

## Ram-Tough Defense?

St. Louis gave up 471 points, the most in the NFL last season and seventh-most in league history, and made it clear that change was coming. Out went linebacker Mike Jones, the hero of Super Bowl XXXIV. Out went defensive tackle D'Marco Farr, cornerback Todd Lyght and defensive end Kevin Carter. In came defensive coordinator Lovie Smith (from Tampa Bay), defensive line coach Bill Kollar (Atlanta) and defensive backs coach Ron Meeks (Washington).

"The Rams got the best-kept secret in the game," says Bucs defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin of his former associate. "I know good coaches from bad coaches. Lovie is just outstanding."

So was the Rams' draft. The trade of Carter to Tennessee and of backup quarterback Trent Green to Kansas City gave the Rams three first-round draft picks, and they spent them all on defensive help—tackle Damione Lewis, safety Adam Archuleta and tackle Ryan Pickett. The Rams will play a Bucs-style defense—two-deep zone coverage, speedy linebackers and lots of pressure. They see Archuleta, who played linebacker at Arizona State, filling the

***Maddox went to XTremes to jump-start his moribund career.***

TODD WARSHAW/ALLSPORT (MADDOX)

# Milestones Within Reach This Season

## RUSHING

✖ Dallas running back Emmitt Smith needs 1,561 yards to pass Walter Payton (16,726) and become the NFL's all-time leading rusher. Smith needs 1,027 combined yards to join Payton (21,803) and Jerry Rice (19,878) as the only NFL players with 19,000 combined yards.

✖ Indianapolis' Edgerrin James can become only the third running back in NFL history (Jim Brown and Earl Campbell) to win the rushing title in each of his first three seasons.

✖ New York Jet Curtis Martin could become the third player in NFL history (Barry Sanders and Eric Dickerson) to run for 1,000 yards in each of his first seven seasons.

✖ Tennessee running back Eddie George could become the first player in NFL history to rush for 1,200 yards in each of his first six seasons. George and Eric Dickerson are the only running backs with 1,200 yards in their first five seasons.

### ALL-TIME LEADING RUSHERS

| Name | Years | Att. | Yds. | Avg. | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Walter Payton | 13 | 3,838 | 16,726 | 4.4 | 110 |
| Barry Sanders | 10 | 3,062 | 15,269 | 5.0 | 99 |
| Emmitt Smith | 11 | 3,537 | 15,166 | 4.3 | 145 |
| Eric Dickerson | 11 | 2,996 | 13,259 | 4.4 | 90 |
| Tony Dorsett | 12 | 2,936 | 12,739 | 4.3 | 77 |

Source: Pro Football Hall of Fame

*Emmitt Smith*

## PASSING

✖ Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre could become the first quarterback in NFL history to throw for 3,000 yards in 10 consecutive seasons. Favre and Dan Marino share the league mark of nine in a row.

✖ Indianapolis quarterback Peyton Manning could become only the third QB in NFL history (Dan Fouts and Dan Marino) to throw for 4,000 yards in three consecutive seasons.

### ALL-TIME LEADING PASSERS

| Name | Years | Rating |
|---|---|---|
| Steve Young | 15 | 96.8 |
| Joe Montana | 15 | 92.3 |
| Otto Graham | 10 | 86.6 |
| Dan Marino | 17 | 86.4 |
| Brett Favre | 10 | 86.0 |

Source: Pro Football Hall of Fame

## RECEIVING

✖ Minnesota's Randy Moss could become the first player in NFL history with 1,000 receiving yards in each of his first four seasons. Moss and John Jefferson are tied with three.

✖ Jerry Rice needs 122 yards to join Walter Payton (21,803) as the only players with 20,000 combined receiving and rushing yards. Rice holds the NFL record with 19,247 receiving yards.

### ALL-TIME LEADING RECEIVERS

| Name | Years | Rec. | Yds. | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jerry Rice | 16 | 1,281 | 19,247 | 176 |
| Cris Carter | 14 | 1,029 | 12,962 | 123 |
| Andre Reed | 16 | 951 | 13,198 | 87 |
| Art Monk | 16 | 940 | 12,721 | 68 |
| Irving Fryar | 17 | 851 | 12,785 | 84 |

Source: Pro Football Hall of Fame

ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

## KICK RETURNS

✖ Philadelphia's Brian Mitchell needs one touchdown on a kickoff or punt return to gain sole possession of the all-time lead. Mitchell has 11, tying him with Eric Metcalf. Mitchell needs one punt return for a TD to tie Metcalf (9) for first all time. Mitchell holds the NFL record with 14,521 combined kick return yards.

## DEFENSE

✖ With one safety, San Francisco defensive tackle Bryant Young would tie all-time leaders Doug English and Ted Hendricks (4).

✖ Baltimore safety Rod Woodson needs one interception return for a touchdown to take sole possession of the all-time NFL lead. Woodson has nine, tying him with Ken Houston for the most in league history.

✖ Washington defensive end Bruce Smith needs 17 sacks to tie Reggie White (198.0) for the most in NFL history.

## PUNTING

✖ New England's Lee Johnson needs 44 yards to pass Rohn Stark (49,471) and become the NFL's all-time leader in punting yardage.

RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT (MOON); STEPHEN DUNN/ALLSPORT

***Moon (left) and Aikman went out with a whimper, but remember them as they're pictured here—the lone stars of Texas.***

same role as John Lynch of the Bucs.

"Adam Archuleta was a guy we wanted in the worst way," Smith says. "I think he will be a special safety in the league. He has a couple of things that he can do. Of course he played linebacker in college, but I really think he can be a good safety in the league. He has been compared to John Lynch, and I think that is a good comparison."

Archuleta, 6'0" and 211 pounds, broke the scouting combine record in the bench press for defensive backs when he handled the 225-pound bar 31 times. He runs a 4.37 40-yard dash.

## Farewell, Old Friends

It's never easy to say goodbye, especially to great players. We get to know them over such a long period of time, and then they depart.

In some cases, that's not a bad thing. Warren Moon hung on a year too long, and seeing him as the third-string quarterback for a mediocre Chiefs club is not seeing him at all. Remember the strong-armed passer of the run-and-shoot Houston Oilers teams that talked a great game and couldn't protect a lead. Remember him as a prolific player and a gentleman. Remember him as someone who put in 23 years, between the CFL and NFL.

Those final looks at Troy Aikman should not be our lasting recollections, either. The much-concussed Cowboys quarterback won three Super Bowls in a 12-year career, and he too conducted himself with the utmost dignity. Aikman won none of his 11 starts in 1989 with a denuded Cowboys club freshly sold to Jerry Jones and coached by Jimmy Johnson. But he became the standard bearer for his club, along with Emmitt Smith and Michael Irvin, and the 'Boys won three NFL titles in four years.

Reggie White also retired again, this time leaving Carolina. The NFL's all-time sack leader put Green Bay back on the map in the mid-1990s, leaving Philadelphia for the Packers as the NFL's first marquee free agent.

Some other players who retired hadn't yet achieved all they could in the NFL but wanted to try life's other avenues. Minnesota's Robert Smith, an eight-year veteran coming off the first season in which he played in all 16 games, simply and suddenly opted out at age 29. A nagging knee that needed another surgery surely played a part in his decision to quit. Oakland's Napoleon Kaufman, 28, felt the pull of the ministry and left the Raiders. Curtis Enis, Chicago's top draft pick just three seasons ago, had signed with Cleveland but, after minicamp in April, decided his surgically-repaired left knee wouldn't take any more abuse.

Smith supplanted Chuck Foreman as the Vikings' career rushing leader last season and still had many good years ahead of him. He departs after his best season—1,521 rushing yards and 348 receiving yards—and his 5.2 yards per carry will be tough for Minnesota to replace. Kaufman was mostly a role player for the Raiders and Enis a bitter disappointment with the Bears. Now we'll never know how good they might have been.

## Did You Know...

That when Jeff Hartings first takes the field for Pittsburgh, he'll be only the Steelers' third starting center since 1974, joining Mike Webster (1974-88) and Dermontti Dawson (1989-2000)? ... that Aaron Brooks, who replaced the injured Jeff Blake at quarterback last season for the Saints, is a cousin of Michael Vick's? Brooks concedes nothing to Blake in the competition for the starter's job. "He has to realize I'm gunning for it," says Brooks.

That Tampa Bay threw on only 42% of its offensive plays last year? That should change with Brad Johnson at quarterback. "I think Brad is going to bring a different dimension to the position than what we had," Bucs coach Tony Dungy says. ... that NFL schedule-makers expect great things from the Raiders? Oakland will be on national TV a league-high 11 times this season. Denver is next (8), followed by Philadelphia and Washington (both 7). ... that the minimum salary for a five-year veteran is $477,000? The rookie minimum is $209,000.

That the expansion Texans will have 14 draft picks in each of their first two seasons? "A number of those are in the middle to late rounds, but that will be the key, if we can take a lot of the right people in those rounds," says Houston coach Dom Capers, who also coached the expansion Carolina Panthers. "They'll be the basis of our team."

That the salary cap this season is $67.4 million and Dallas has a record $23.4 million tied up in 20 players no longer with the club? The term for that cap obligation is "dead money." Aikman alone counts $10 million against the cap. "No team is immune," owner/GM Jerry Jones says. "Sooner or later it catches up with you." Among the other big-name Cowboys lost in the off-season: Leon Lett, Chad Hennings, Erik Williams and Randall Cunningham. ■

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# DICK BUTKUS

## From Monster of the Midway to Hollywood Ham, the legendary linebacker is still a BIG HIT

LEGENDS *of the* GAME

By Jim Kaplan

When the Baltimore Ravens won Super Bowl XXXV with great defense and an outasight middle linebacker, what better source for commentary than Dick Butkus, the Chicago Bears' MLB from 1965-73, a Hall of Famer and a *Sports Illustrated* finalist for football player of the century?

So, Dick, what did you think of the Super Bowl?

"I fell asleep."

Butkus, 58, never did play according to type. Pictured as equal parts Hulk and Hunchback in his linebacker days, he was a fast, intuitive, intelligent player and a sensitive guy who worried about time away from his family. Expected to go from football player to football coach, he became, of all things, an actor! But sleep through the game's premier event?

Well, there were extenuating circumstances. Butkus had been on the road as TV analyst/director of competition and rules for the XFL, and the Ravens' 34-7 massacre of the New York Giants was sleep-inducing soon after the opening kick. "On a third and long, [Giants quarterback] Kerry Collins slipped and fell with no one else in the frame," Butkus says. "That set the tone."

Not that he comes up empty when asked obvious questions in the wake of the game. Will the NFL remain a defensive league this season, or will all those young quarterbacks and receivers bring back offense? "A lot of teams will look at the Baltimore defense, but if you don't have the players, you're whistling Dixie," says Butkus, his voice as gravelly as water flowing over stone. "In any case, the muckety-mucks want offense, even though they put the best athletes on defense. If defenses dominate, they'll go to more rule changes. Every change is geared for offense."

On the Ravens' defense, which set an NFL record for fewest points (165) in a 16-game season: "I don't attempt to say they're better than the old Bears or Steelers defenses because of the changes—the way the game is played now and the players. Anyway, the true test is how consistent you were, how many years you can do it in a row."

On Ravens MLB Ray Lewis, the Super Bowl's Most Valuable Player: "In college he was a finalist for the Butkus Award [given the country's top linebacker], and he's the best at that position right now. In my era you had players like Nobis, Lanier and Nitschke. Then they began using 3-4 defenses, and Lawrence Taylor, Derrick Thomas and others dominated at outside linebacker. Now Lewis is in the middle because they have a big front four whose job is to keep people off of him. He has the ability to make plays and stop passes, so he's become a real impact player. He's strong and fast and has the desire to make every tackle."

So did Butkus. A Lithuanian kid out of Chicago Vocational High School and the University of Illinois, he was seven times an All-Pro as a 6'3", 245-pound linebacker with what *Sports Illustrated* called a reputation for "ruthless hits and near-psychotic demeanor."

Butkus thought his post-playing future was as clear as the X's and O's on a chalkboard. "I was naive in thinking that if you play for somebody, you'll get on the staff as a coach. The last year, when my knee was really bad, [the Bears] threatened not to honor the contract if I didn't play. It went into litigation for two years"—Butkus eventually got paid for the last three years of his contract—"and left me with a bad taste. I realized football was a business. If they can't use you anymore, it's time to move on, and they'll get someone else."

Whither Butkus, seemingly a waif in the world outside football? "I got a call do to a commercial for Miller Lite," he says. "I did one, and then I did

***Whether stalking a ballcarrier or making the calls for XFL competition, Butkus has been involved with football for four decades.***

TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT; (OPPOSITE) BETTMANN/CORBIS/MAGMA

HAM
6
51

one with Bubba Smith. That continued on for 14 years. We got calls to do sitcoms, and after that I decided to go out to California and give it a shot." He currently lives in Malibu with his wife, Helen. They have three grown children.

Acting not only saved Butkus' career but also his soul. While he was at Illinois, a reporter painted him as a football automaton, and the label stuck. In the NFL, sportswriter Dan Jenkins described Butkus as "a special kind of brute whose particular talent is mashing runners into curious shapes." People were so scared of him they actually walked away in airports. But once the Miller Lite commercials began, people would approach him and say, "Does it taste great, or is it less filling?" as an icebreaker. Butkus loved it. He was finally seen as human.

And as a reasonably-talented actor. "I went after it with the same tunnel vision as football," he says. "I kept my mouth shut like a rookie, watched and talked with crew members about various things. Some agents said to go to acting coaches, but they always seemed to be their clients."

Despite his lack of formal training, Butkus discovered he had a gift for comedy. It mattered not to him who was the straight man and who got the laughs. Such actors as Tom Poston and James Garner encouraged him, and situation comedies yielded movie contracts, the latest for Oliver Stone's *Any Given Sunday*. In all, he has appeared as a principal in 20 TV shows and movies.

Active on many fronts between his acting gigs, Butkus did training films for Nautilus and commentary for *The NFL Today* and Bears radio broadcasts. "With the Bears, I broke every Marty Glickman School of Broadcasting rule," he says. "I'd step on our play-by-play guy, I was a homer, I'd yell."

Last winter Butkus was omnipresent. On Saturday mornings you could see him as high school basketball coach Mike Katowinski on NBC's teen show *Hang Time*. On Saturday nights you might see him doing color commentary on the same network's XFL backup games. All the while furthering his acting career.

"I stopped for a lunch at a little town the other day, and the kids never mentioned anything about football," Butkus says happily. "It was about the coach role. They said, 'You're Julie's coach.' And their fathers were watching the show because they remembered me from football."

The XFL had only a month to establish rosters. On Saturday nights—"a killer for anyone," says Butkus—the NBC telecasts drew poor ratings. Nonetheless, Butkus insists, the players were grateful and the fans satisfied.

The XFL folded after one season. But shed no tears for its most celebrated alum. Even while the league was going under, Butkus was making pilots and writing film scripts. He may be out of football for good now, but he'll be well worth watching in other arenas.

*Jim Kaplan is the author of* Lefty Grove: American Original *(SABR).*

## The Butkus File

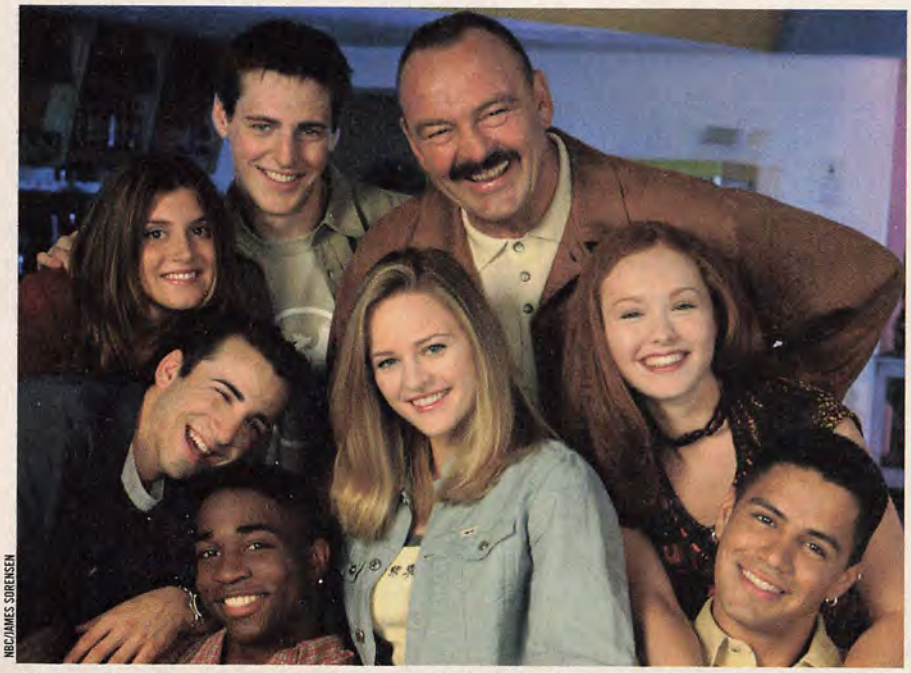
### COLLEGE CAREER

*Two-time All-America selection (1963, 1964)*
*Sixth (1963) and fourth (1964) in Heisman Trophy balloting*
*American Football Coaches Association Player of the Year (1964)*
*Inducted into College Football Hall of Fame (1983)*
*Butkus Award for college linebacker of the year named in his honor*

### PROFESSIONAL CAREER

*Drafted third overall in 1965*
*In nine-year career with Chicago Bears (1965-73):*
- *played in eight Pro Bowls*
- *named All-Pro seven times*
- *conference player of the year twice*

*Selected to NFL's all-time team*
*ESPN and* The Sporting News *100 greatest players of the 20th century*
*Finalist for* Sports Illustrated's *football player of the 20th century*
*Inducted into Pro Football Hall of Fame (1979)*



NBC/JAMES SORENSEN

***Butkus the actor, hanging with the cast of his Saturday-morning teen show* Hang Time.**

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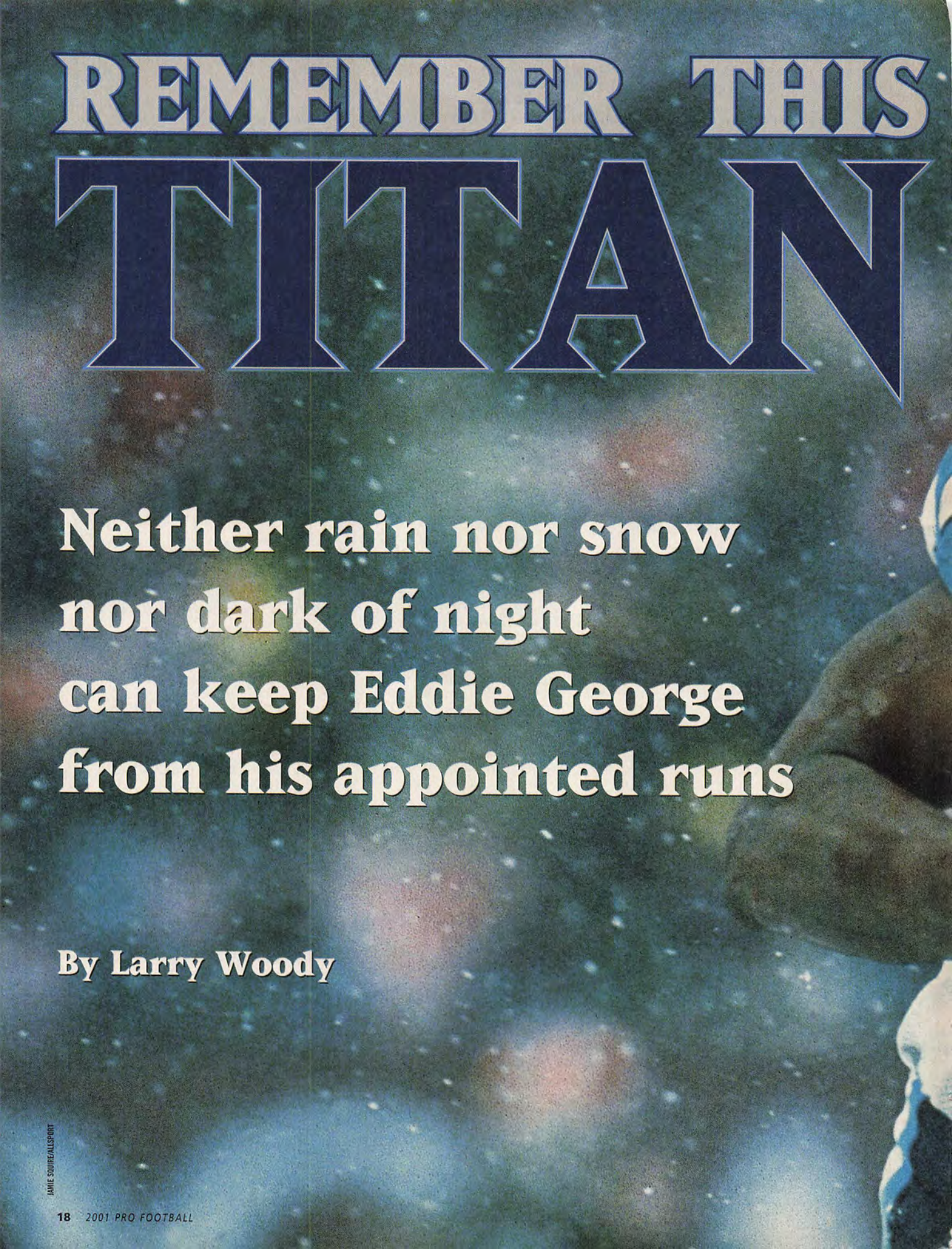
# REMEMBER THIS TITAN

## Neither rain nor snow nor dark of night can keep Eddie George from his appointed runs

By Larry Woody



JAMIE SQUIRE/ALLSPORT

TITANS

Call him Mr. Indestructible. Or Mr. Indispensable. Eddie George has the credentials to answer to either. And because he eats up the toughest yards, some of his teammates call him the Beast. Whatever the moniker, George is a 6'3", 240-pound Energizer Bunny. He keeps going ... and going ... and going ....

George, heading into his sixth season as the Tennessee Titans' sledgehammer running back, has never missed a game since entering the NFL (Mr. Indestructible). He's also the key component to a team that went to the Super Bowl two years ago, won the AFC Central last season and is a serious challenger again this year (Mr. Indispensable).

"It's hard to think of our offense without Eddie George," says Jeff Fisher, the Titans' coach since 1994. "He's one of those guys who does everything we ask of him. In all my years in the league I haven't seen a back like him, a player with his ability to move the pile and also play so consistently without the football. Eddie understands the complexities of the game. He sets such high expectations for himself, yet if he has five yards on eight carries and we win, he's happy."

George always has more than eight carries. He has averaged 22 a game in his career, including an NFL-high 25 a week last season. And the Beast just keeps moving the chains. "I really don't set a lot of personal goals," he says. "My focus is more about what I want the team to accomplish. The most satisfaction I get as a player is seeing our team perform and reach our team goals. My goal—our goal—is to get back to the Super Bowl and win it this time."

The Titans came up a yard short of taking the St. Louis Rams into overtime in their last—the franchise's first—Super Bowl two years ago. Fisher has said if his team had tied the game, his offensive strategy in OT would have been Eddie George, Eddie George, Eddie George, kick a field goal.

George wants another shot at the game with the Roman numerals. "We proved to everybody, including ourselves, that we had the ability to get there," says George, whose team last season lost to the eventual champion Baltimore Ravens in the AFC divisional round. "We want to prove that we have the ability to go back and win it all."

How far the Titans go depends on how far George can run. Last season the four-time Pro Bowler churned out a career-high 1,509 rushing yards, second in the AFC and third in the NFL. He joined Eric Dickerson as the only running backs in NFL history to rush for 1,200 yards in each of their first five seasons. This year George could become the only back to gain 1,200 in his first six campaigns.

"We can't do without Eddie," says Titans quarterback Steve McNair. "I can't put into words what he means to this offense. It's not just his running, it's also everything else he does. He's a great receiver, he protects the quarterback ... he does it all, and he does it all well."

Last year the yardage didn't come easily; George toted the ball 403 times, just seven carries short of Jamal Anderson's all-time single-season record. In his five years George has averaged 353 carries. With a career-high 50 receptions added to the equation, George was responsible for 37% of the Titans' offense last season.

In February he had surgery to repair a torn tendon in his right big toe. Is there a danger the 27-year-old George (he turns 28 on Sept. 24) could be overextended, that he might, well, run himself into the ground?

"I don't worry about that," Fisher says. "The more Eddie gets the ball, the stronger he becomes. He's strong, in terrific shape, and he has proved he can handle it. If he couldn't, he wouldn't be doing it."

George agrees. "I want that load on my shoulders. Running the football is what I'm paid to do, and I enjoy it. I don't feel like I'm being used too much at all."

Even if he can handle it physically, are the Titans relying too much on him to the point of becoming a one-dimensional—i.e., one-man—offense? Fisher still says no, and it's hard to argue with handing the ball to George. The Titans are 24-5 when he runs for 100 or more yards, 23-2 when he carries 27-plus times and 9-0 when he runs for two or more touchdowns.

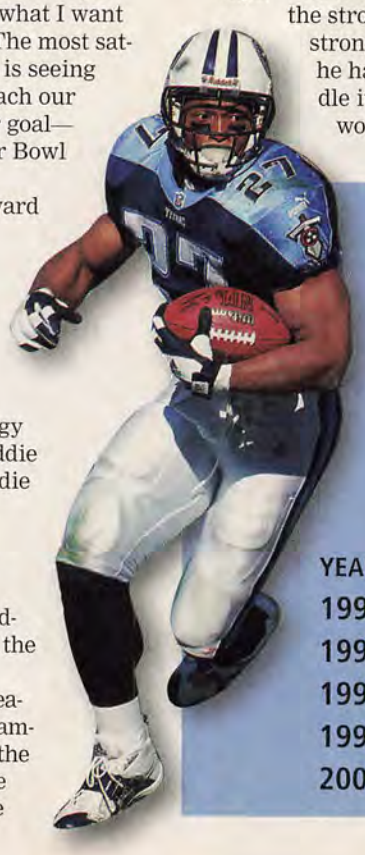
"I think he could probably carry the ball 50 times," says Bengals cornerback Rodney Heath. "He could carry it all day long. They use their man; they ride his shoulders."

George is a potent package of size, strength and versatility (he has 164 career receptions for 1,447 yards and eight TDs). That combination makes him a nightmare for opposing defenses.

"He looks like a linebacker playing running back. I've never seen a guy sculptured like that," says Eagles defensive coordinator Jim Johnson, who called George the best back his team faced last season. "The thing about him is that you might be in a great position to make the tackle, but he is so strong that he's going to break tackles."

Adds Eagles coach Andy Reid, "Not only is he a big man, he's relentless. There are not a lot of running backs out there that can wear a defense down like he does. Normally it's the other way around, but not with George."

As for his endurance: "He continues to amaze me," McNair says. "It seems like

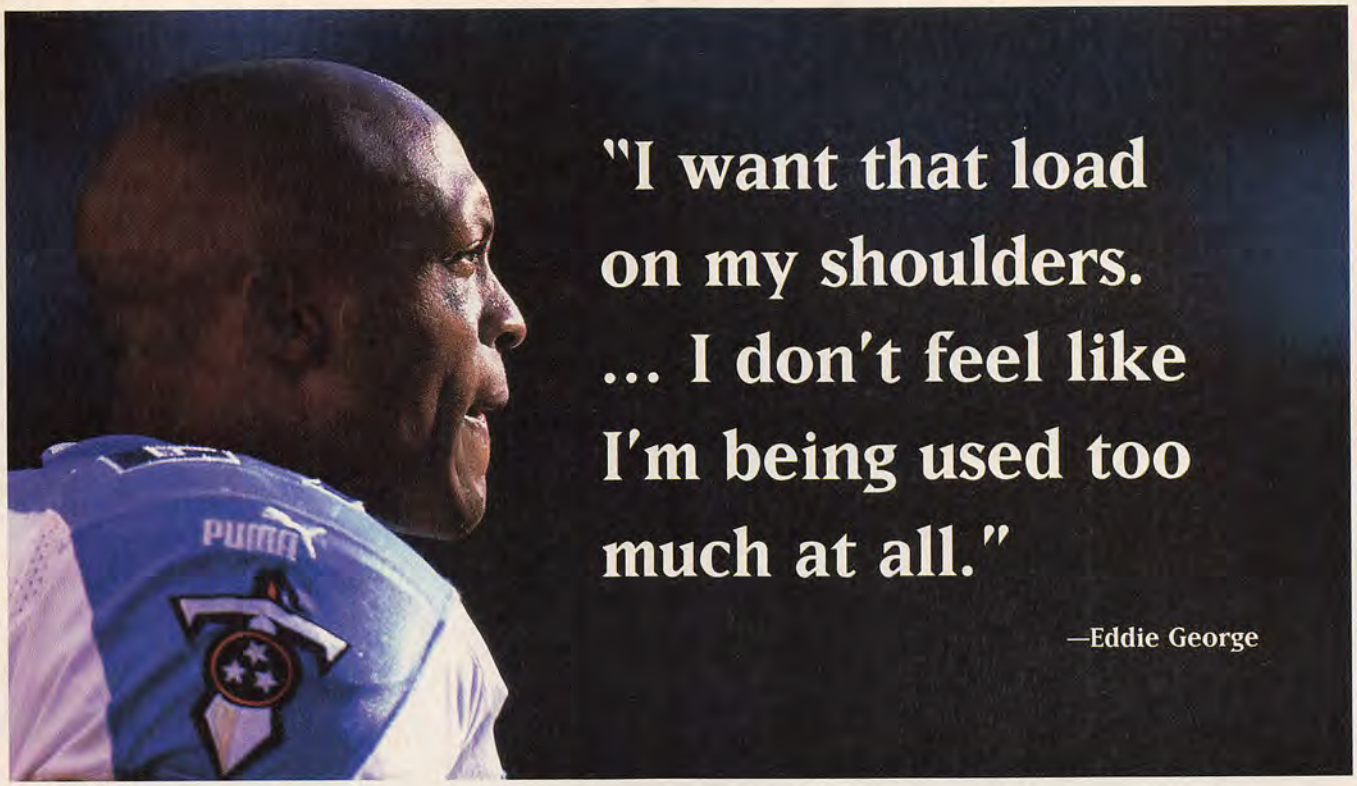


## ROCK SOLID, By George

***This season Eddie George could become the first running back in NFL history to gain 1,200 yards in each of his first six seasons. Here are his career statistics.***

| YEAR | TEAM | G | RUSH | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1996 | HOU | 16 | 335 | 1,368 | 4.1 | 23 | 182 | 8 |
| 1997 | HOU | 16 | 357 | 1,399 | 3.9 | 7 | 44 | 7 |
| 1998 | TEN | 16 | 348 | 1,294 | 3.7 | 37 | 310 | 6 |
| 1999 | TEN | 16 | 320 | 1,304 | 4.1 | 47 | 458 | 13 |
| 2000 | TEN | 16 | 403 | 1,509 | 3.7 | 50 | 453 | 16 |

MATTHEW STOCKMAN/ALLSPORT (OPPOSITE); SCOTT HALLERAN/ALLSPORT




the longer he goes, the stronger he gets. He doesn't get tired. He's incredible."

Indeed, despite five seasons of NFL pounding, George has answered the call every time. He has started 78 of 80 regular-season games since trotting out as a raw rookie and has played in all 80. "That's part of what makes Eddie so amazing," Fisher says. "Even when he gets injuries, he has showed an amazing ability to work through rehab and be ready to go again at game time."

Sometimes George seems almost too good to be true: He's a modest, team-oriented player who never showboats—no strutting, prancing or chest-thumping, no mock throat-slashing, no Funky Chicken renditions or TD two-steps.

"Eddie's not a rah-rah type of guy," McNair says. "Man, he's so quiet you have to stand next to him to know he's breathing."

Still, the Titans follow his lead. "He seldom raises his voice, but when he explodes, he explodes," Fisher says. "When he does speak, people listen. That's what makes him so effective. There's not a lot of leadership in the NFL today, and Eddie brings that to our team."

According to the coach, leadership is just one of George's many admirable qualities. "If [Fisher's wife] Julie and I had to leave town for a month, we could leave our kids with Eddie and never have to call home and check on them," he says. "That's the kind of person Eddie is."

Surely something gets under George's skin? "Seeing somebody not giving a complete effort—that really upsets me," he says. "That, and getting caught behind somebody doing 30 in the fast lane on the interstate. That drives me crazy."

With his blend of talent, modesty and dependability, George is understandably a Tennessee fan favorite. When No. 27 jogs onto the field, Nashville's downtown Adelphia Coliseum rattles and sways to chants of, "Ed-eeeee! Ed-eeeee!"

George appreciates the support, but gameday aside, he is an intensely private person in a very public world. He is Nashville's most famous non-rhinestone celebrity, yet the bachelor maintains a low profile about town. He owns a downtown restaurant, Eddie George's Sports Grille, and participates in a number of charitable events. He also agreed to wave the starting flag for this past spring's NASCAR race at Nashville Superspeedway. But he's not flashy and doesn't hog the spotlight.

"I don't mind the attention—I know that comes with the territory—but I also love my privacy," George says. "I enjoy hanging out with a few friends, relaxing, playing cards. Simple things like that. Nothing too exciting."

Born Edward Nathan George in Philadelphia in 1973, Eddie attended Abington High outside Philly and Fork Union (Va.) Military Academy, where he starred in football and track. Then it was on to Ohio State for All-America and Heisman Trophy honors. Now he is on course to become one of the greatest running backs in NFL history.

George isn't leaving football anytime soon—he has six years left on his contract—but he's already preparing for life after the NFL. Following Super Bowl XXXIV, he returned to Ohio State to finish his degree in landscape architecture. "There are a lot of things I'd like to do," he says. "Start some businesses, become a teacher and a family man, get into acting ... maybe even own my own football team someday."

The photogenic George already has dabbled in acting, with appearances on the TV shows *Nash Bridges* and *In the House*. He has made commercials for Adidas and Sony PlayStation, and he's appeared in *Sports Illustrated For Women's* swimsuit issue. But right now George is locked in on the present, trying to help a team fulfill what he believes is its Super Bowl destiny.

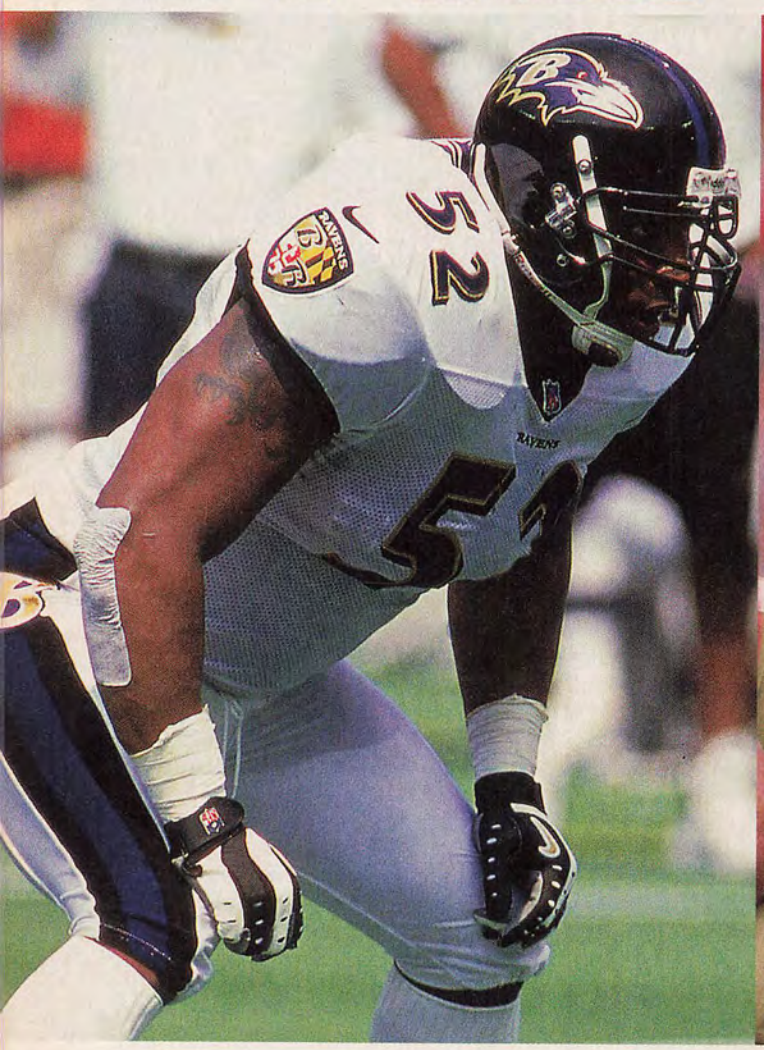
"I want that ring, not just for me but for the coaches and owners and everybody in this franchise," he says. "A lot of people have worked very hard to get us in this position."

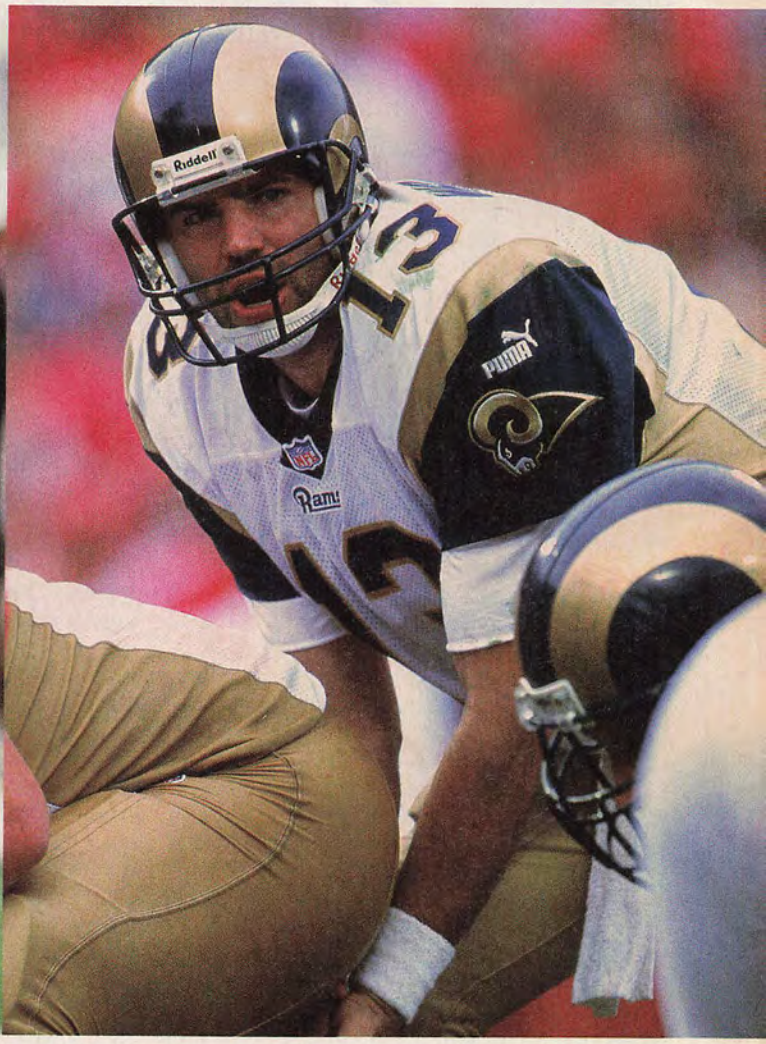
Tennessee plans to ride George back to the Super Bowl. Mr. Indestructible remains Mr. Indispensable for the Titans. And that's indisputable.

---

*In his 30 years at* The Tennessean, *Larry Woody has covered the NFL, NASCAR and SEC football and basketball.*

# BALANCE




# OF POWER

**Will *defense* dominate again this season, or will the NFL go on the *offensive*?**

By Barry Wilner

## RAMS ARE UNSTOPPABLE

That was the sentiment around the NFL in 1999 when St. Louis, with more weapons than the Pentagon, set all kinds of offensive records.

## RAVENS ARE IMMOVABLE

Move ahead 12 months. Media and fans lauded Baltimore's dominant defense, which allowed fewer points in a 16-game season than any team ever.

And for 2001? Who knows?

"Balance is what you always seek," says Denver coach Mike Shanahan.

Adds Tennessee coach Jeff Fisher, "If you're not balanced on both sides of the ball, you're in trouble."

Sorry to disagree, guys, but the last two seasons prove just the opposite. Build an unstoppable offense, and you can win a championship. Or build an impenetrable defense, and you can take the title.

Baltimore coach Brian Billick, considered an offensive mastermind when he was the Minnesota Vikings' coordinator, let his thoughts wander when asked about a matchup between the '99 Rams and 2000 Ravens. "It would be something to see, might against might," he says.

A similar matchup just might happen, considering the direction the NFL is going.

"You mean build a better machine on one side of the ball to offset what you can't do on the other?" says Billick, whose staunch defense rescued his struggling offense last season. "I don't think that's the way you really want to go, but the last two years have made it look like it can work.

"But it's like asking who is prettier, your daughter or mine?"

Teams aren't trying to win beauty pageants. If a club could win the Super Bowl by dropkicking for points and punting on second down, it would do it. But what NFL personnel executives and scouts are discovering is that the salary cap has made it extremely difficult to put together a well-rounded team. Depth has to come from the draft, because no team can load up with veterans and stay under the cap. And without depth on both offense and defense, balance disappears.

What remains is, usually, a superior unit and a lesser one.

"There are many factors," Fisher says of building two solid groups. "You have to stay healthy so you can stay within the system you want to play. You need to keep the same players, but you never do. Then you lose production and balance and must adjust, which is what teams are doing.

"You want to go in with balance. We'd like to go in, say, with balance on offense with our running game and passing game. But that does not always come out the way you want, because of the many factors.

"One of the things Brian [Billick] did better than anyone last year was make those adjustments. His philosophy was always to throw the ball, like his teams did in Minnesota. But then he got to that stretch where they didn't score a touchdown for five games and he was forced to adjust."

If a team structures itself to be overpowering on one side of the ball, it can overcome its deficiencies on the other. There's no better example than last season's Ravens, whose offense might not have won the Music City Bowl, let alone the Super Bowl, without Ray Lewis and company wreaking havoc on every opposing attack.

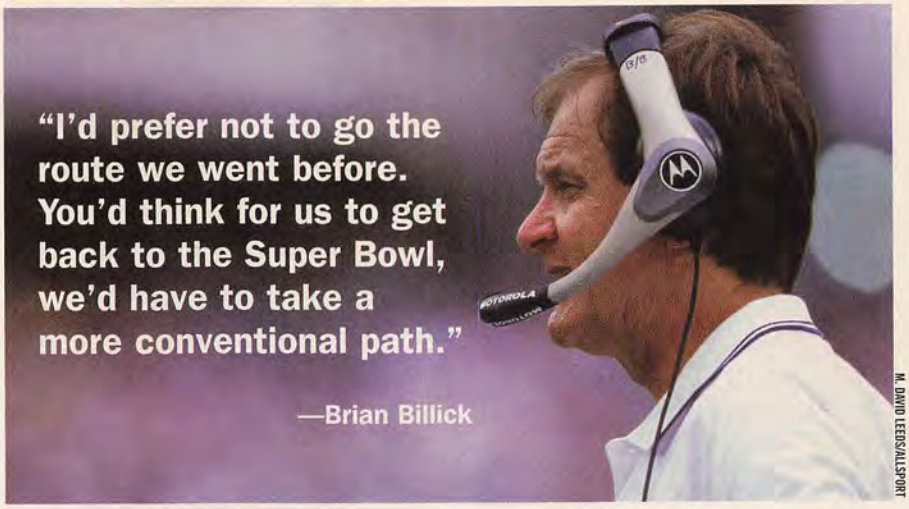
"Given the chance, I'd prefer not to go the route we went before," Billick says. "You'd think for us to get back to the Super Bowl, we'd have to take a more conventional path."

But, in the next breath, he admits a similar approach is possible for this season. Billick is no fool—he knows how absurd it would be to ignore the nonpareil strength of his defense.

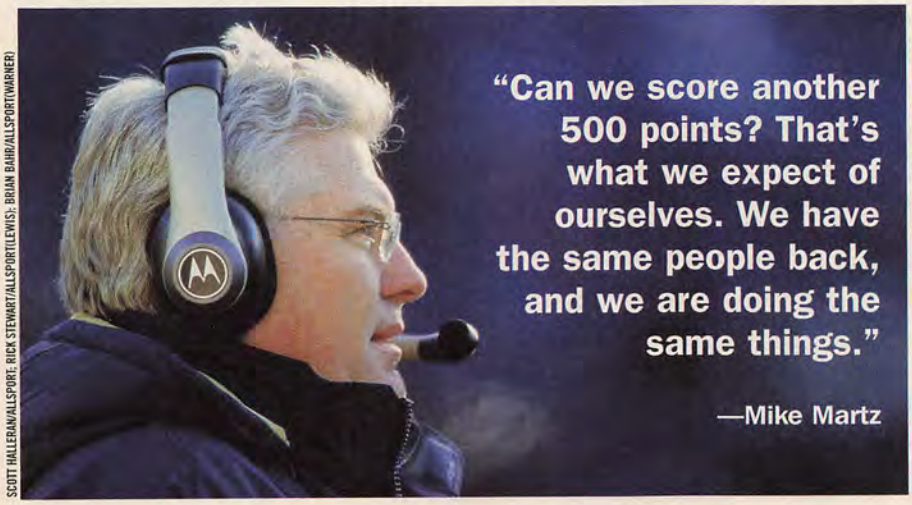
"Hopefully we will be more efficient with the moves we've made," he says, mentioning the acquisition of quarterback Elvis Grbac, plus the return to health of second-year wideout Travis Taylor, a former first-round draft pick. "Hopefully we'll go downfield and be vertical. Our formula was to get a lead and play to protect it.

"Let's say we go from 16th in offense to eighth or ninth, and we are more productive in the first half. We build a lead and then take the air out of the ball. We could return to the Super Bowl, and you would not see a huge change in the numbers. What that hopefully gives us is the ability to get the lead sooner and milk it."

With unrelenting defense. Billick says if you are going to create a super unit, it is easier to do it on ... defense. Yes, the


"I'd prefer not to go the route we went before. You'd think for us to get back to the Super Bowl, we'd have to take a more conventional path."
—Brian Billick

M. DAVID LEEDS/ALLSPORT


"Can we score another 500 points? That's what we expect of ourselves. We have the same people back, and we are doing the same things."
—Mike Martz

SCOTT HALLERAN/ALLSPORT; RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT(LEWIS); BRIAN BAHR/ALLSPORT(WARNER)

## COUNTER PROPOSALS

So what is an offense to do against a Ravens-type defense? And how do defenses slow down the Rams' attack?

St. Louis coach Mike Martz believes the more speed and creativity an offense possesses, the tougher the defensive assignment. Collect the talent and let it perform.

"It really is the personnel," he says. "Do we have a powerful offense? Yes. But it's because of who is running it more than how we run it."

San Francisco 49ers consultant Bill Walsh emphasizes "sticking to what you do best. Stick to your philosophy and your strengths."

Look for more variations of the West Coast offense, which keeps defenders off-balance better than most other approaches. Offenses will test the best defenses with more misdirection and screen passes.

In turn, nobody faced with stopping the Rams or Vikings will lay back in passive alignments. No sport copies success more than pro football, so expect teams to bulk up at the tackle spots and never back off. Blitzing on early downs will not be unusual, and it might be required on third downs. And expect defenses to get ultra-physical against the most dangerous attacks.

Other than the established stars, players who could have an especially big impact on offense this year include running backs Ahman Green in Green Bay, a healthy Duce Staley in Philadelphia and Ricky Williams in New Orleans; wideouts Darrell Jackson in Seattle and Patrick Jeffers in Carolina.

Defensively, watch out for DEs Darren Howard in New Orleans and Kenny Holmes with the Giants; LBs Mike Peterson in Indianapolis and Julian Peterson in San Francisco; DBs Champ Bailey in Washington and Keion Carpenter in Buffalo.

And always keep an eye on the Ravens' D and the Rams' O. That's where the best action remains.

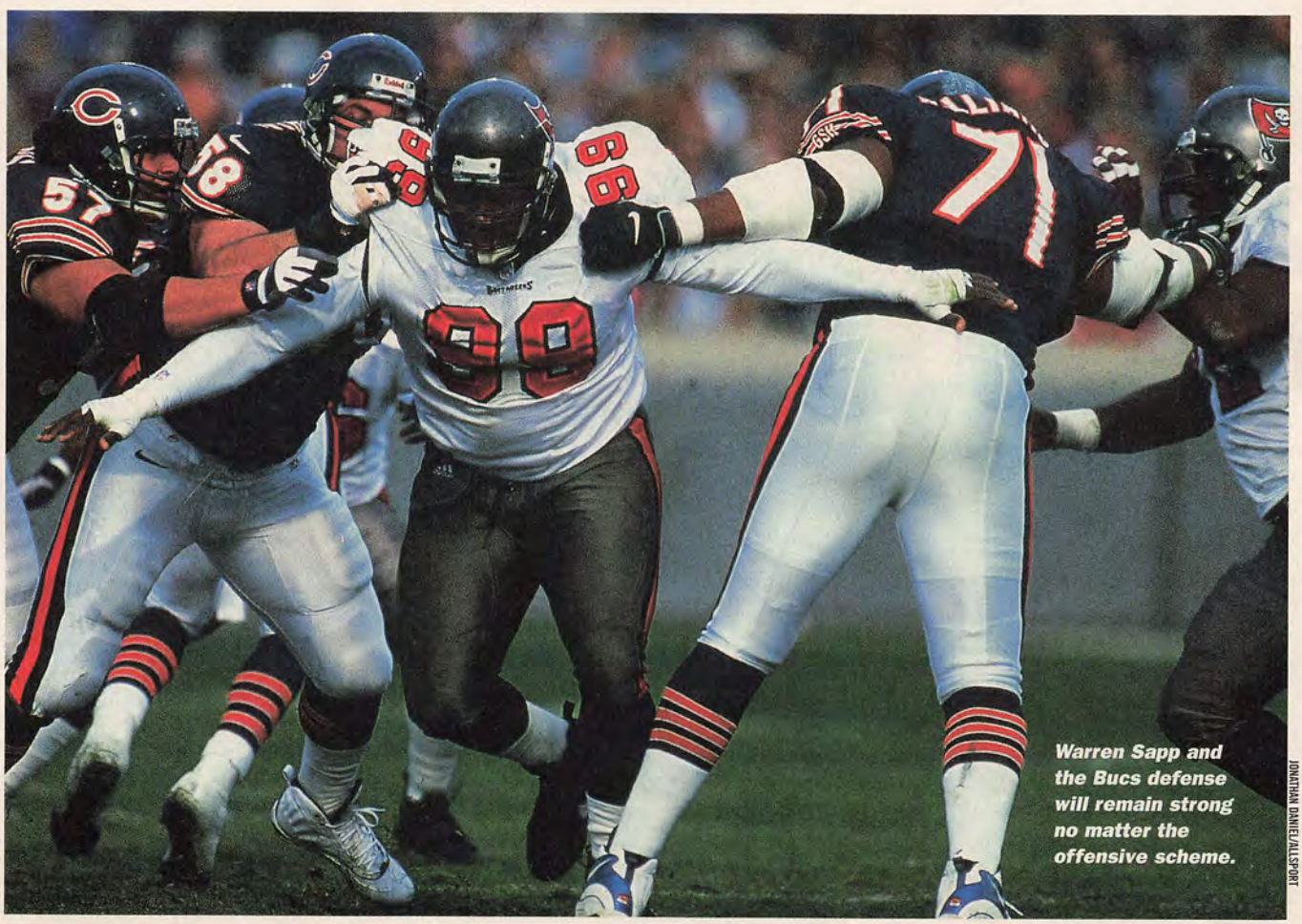
*—Barry Wilner*

offensive guru, perhaps blinded by the electricity of defensive coordinator Marvin Lewis' crew, really believes that.

"If, hypothetically, you have a franchise player at every single offensive position and every single defensive position, I would wager the defense would be a little cheaper," Billick says. "So maybe it's cheaper to put together that kind of defense."

Some would say Baltimore has done just that. Nobody has a better contingent up front, led by monstrous tackles Tony Siragusa and Sam Adams. They don't let blockers get to Lewis, the middle linebacker extraordinaire who seems to make all the stops. The secondary lost strong safety Kim Herring to the Rams, but it's still terrific.

"If you look at that team, break it down, you see what the strength is," says Shanahan, whose Broncos felt the Ravens' wrath in the opening round of the playoffs. "Baltimore has two cornerbacks [Chris McAlister and Duane Starks], and what round were they picked? The first. Herring was a second-rounder who played like a first. Their linebackers, two were first-rounders [Lewis and Peter Boulware]



***Warren Sapp and the Bucs defense will remain strong no matter the offensive scheme.***

JONATHAN DANIEL/ALLSPORT

taken very high, and the other was an early second-rounder. Then look at the defensive line with Burnett and McCrary at ends, and the big tackles.

"Not only are they talented, but they are well-coached, and you get what you got last year."

Might we get it again this year, and for the foreseeable future? "Sure," Shanahan says. "Whether it's the Ravens or someone else, we might see an offense or defense like that."

The offense, if it is not in St. Louis—a healthy Kurt Warner makes all the difference, of course—could be in Indianapolis. Coach Jim Mora admits the Colts' recent approach has been to build a super side of the ball and slowly improve the other elements.

"When you have a Peyton Manning, Edgerrin James and Marvin Harrison, superstars like we have, and you pay them the money they deserve, it hurts your depth,'" Mora says. "We have spent a lot of money on offense, and we stick kids in there and ask them to play on defense. It's hard to be good on both sides because of salary cap restraints."

Which way is the league likely to go this season? Most personnel men, scouts and coaches say toward defense—and not just because the Ravens are the most recent champions. There are several reasons.

One is the dearth of top-flight quarterbacks. Other than Manning, Warner and Brett Favre, is there another passer every coach in the league would trust to carry his team to victory? Perhaps Steve McNair, Daunte Culpepper, Donovan McNabb and Jeff Garcia will reach that level, but they aren't there now.

Also, despite all the terrific runners in the league—23 reached 1,000 yards last season—the best defenses, particularly Baltimore's, can shut them down.

More teams seem closer to being staunch without the ball than with it. Along with the Ravens, the Buccaneers, Giants, Titans, Dolphins and Saints all have the elements to be strong no matter what offenses throw at them. Which offenses are at a comparable level? St. Louis, Minnesota, Indianapolis and possibly Denver.

Also, injuries can be more damaging on offense. No position on defense—except perhaps linebacker if you have a Ray Lewis—is as critical as quarterback. Rarely can a team perform at optimum efficiency without its No. 1 QB. But many defenses can be miserly despite losing a key starter; defenders simply are more interchangeable.

Not surprisingly, Rams coach Mike Martz, the maestro of the Rams' offense, believes big points are still possible. "If you put together the right group, it isn't the scheme, anyway, it's the talent," he says. "Can we score another 500 points? That's what we expect of ourselves. We have the same people back, and I know we are doing the same things for three years.

"Everybody has a book on us; they've all figured us out. I think there is a misconception, because everyone who has this kind of offense puts their own personality on it. Norv Turner ran the same offense at Washington, but he had a different type of back [Stephen Davis], not Marshall [Faulk].

"The issue is the guys playing it. Not what we do, but the talent we have to do it. It's not easy to put together that kind of talent these days.

"But everyone wants to try."

*Barry Wilner is a New York-based writer who has covered the NFL since 1985.*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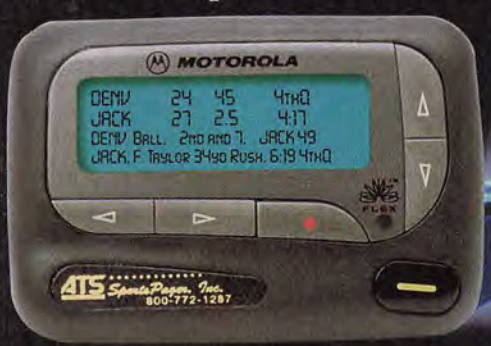

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- Starting team consists of 20 players:
  - 3-Kickers
  - 3-Quarterbacks
  - 6-Running Backs
  - 2-Tight Ends
  - 6-Wide Receivers
- Starting team's salary cannot exceed the $30,000,000 salary cap at any time.
- Taxi squad consists of any 10 players. They are your backups and may be switched onto your starting team for any reason: injury, performance, match-ups, byes, etc.
- Salary cap and position distribution rules do not apply for the taxi squad, but do apply when switched onto the starting team.
- Unlisted players can be placed on your taxi squad. Their salary will be $1,000,000. They may be put into your starting lineup for Week 2.

### LEAGUE FORMATION

- Leagues and divisions are formed on a first-come, first-served basis.
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- All teams compete for the overall grand prize.

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- We calculate your league, division and overall position every week.
- Receive a five-page mailed report weekly or bi-weekly. You automatically receive bi-weekly mailed reports or weekly Internet reports with your entry fee, beginning Sept. 19, 2001.
- Receive complete transactions for all teams in your league every other week via mail or weekly via the Internet.
- Updated league rosters with the top 5 in your division & the top 5 overall sent the weeks of Sept. 17, and Oct. 22, 2001.
- Fax service available. Call for details. (1-800-568-6288)

### ENTRY DEADLINES

- Phone, fax, and Internet entries must be received by 9 PM CT on Saturday, September 8, 2001.
- Mailed entries must be postmarked no later than September 8, 2001, and received no later than Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

### COST TO PLAY

- $39.95 for an entry by August 11, 2001.
- $49.95 for an entry after August 11, 2001.
- $34.95 for an additional entry by August 11, 2001.
- $44.95 for an additional entry after August 11, 2001.
- $10.00 for reports to be mailed to a second address.
- $10.00 per address per team for reports to be mailed weekly rather than bi-weekly.
- $10.00 to receive both bi-weekly and Internet reports.

### TRANSACTION FEES

- Make player transactions using a toll-free number or via the Internet.
- The transaction fees are as follows:
  Any player change by 9 PM CT Sept. 8th (unlimited) ....$1 each
  Bye Week Switch In or Out (unlimited) .....$1 each
  Taxi Squad Switch (unlimited) .....$3 each
  New Player Purchase **(limit 12)**.....$10 each
- **Save $20 on purchases!** Buy 12 purchases for the price of 10 ($100)! Purchase package must be bought by 9 PM CT on Sat., Sept. 8th, and assigned to one team. Pre-paid purchases are non-refundable and non-transferable.
- Player transactions must be made by Saturday 9 PM Central Time in order to be effective for the upcoming Sunday and Monday games, or by 9 PM CT the day preceding any other game (changes for Thursday games must be made by 9 PM Wednesday night).

### Now 5 Ways to Earn Cash Prizes!

- **League** (1 in 5 earns cash)
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- **Overall** (Top 100 earn lots of cash)
- **Weekly** (Overall leader & Weekly leader earn $50)
- **Field** (Top 10 at your level of competition earn cash)

**1 in 25 will earn at least $600**

| Place | Overall Prizes (all entries) | Division Prizes (250 teams) | League Prizes (25 teams) | Field Prizes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1st | $20,000 | $2,000 | $600 | $200 |
| 2nd | $7,500 | $750 | $300 | $150 |
| 3rd | $5,000 | $500 | $100 | $100 |
| 4th | $2,000 | $200 | $50 | $75 |
| 5th | $1,000 | $100 | $25 | $50 |
| 6 to 10 | $500 | $50 | | $25 |
| 11 to 25 | $250 | $25 | | |
| 26 to 100 | $100 | | | |

***Top 25 overall finishers are guaranteed to win at least $2,850.00. Plus each week $50 will be awarded to the overall leader based on year-to-date stats and $50 will be awarded to the overall leader based on standings for the week. (beginning with Week 2)***

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- For the remainder of the Challenge, all teams will be ranked within their field as well as their league, division, and overall in order to compete for prizes.
- After Week 6, a team's field assignment does not change.
- Top 10 teams in each field earn cash prizes!

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### SCORING

- Each team will be ranked within its league, division and overall by eight statistical categories:

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Scoring | Total Receiving Yards |
| Kicker Scoring | Receiving Yards Avg. |
| Total Rushing Yards | Total Passing Yards |
| Rushing Yards Avg. | Passing Yards Avg. |

- The following formula is used to calculate total scoring: (Rushing TDs x 6)+(Passing TDs x 3)+(Receiving TDs x 3) + (Field Goals x 3)+Extra Points+(Other TDs x 6).
- Kicker Scoring is calculated as all points scored by any player by kicking the football through the uprights.
- The average categories are calculated using your team total passing attempts, carries and receptions.
- Rankings will be determined by using the Rotisserie® style ranking system. Each team is ranked in league, division and overall.
- Stats are accumulated weekly for all 20 starting players. The stat week begins with games played on Thursday and ends with games played on Monday.
- All pro football statistics accumulated by the players on the starting team, regardless of what position they play during the season, contribute to a team's statistics totals. Special team yardage does not count.
- Taxi squad players' stats do not contribute to team's stat totals.
- Previous stats by a player before he was on your roster do not count.
- A player's statistics are added to your team's statistics totals only during the weeks that he is in your starting team.
- Pre-season and playoff statistics do not contribute to your team's statistics totals.
- Division points are calculated by ranking your team's statistics totals versus every other team's stats in your division's 10 leagues.
- Overall points are calculated by ranking your team's statistics totals versus all other entries' in the *USA TODAY Football Challenge.*

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- The *USA TODAY Football Challenge* welcomes entries from around the world. All fees, however, must be paid with U.S. funds. For Canadian, Mexican and overseas entries, please add $10 to cover additional mailing costs. If needed, our toll number is 1-314-991-1511.
- Player transactions cannot be made until your team has been entered into the computer database. Mailed and faxed teams will be entered within five working days of receipt.
- Player transactions can be made with live commissioners or via the Internet. Commissioners are available 9 AM-9 PM CT Tuesday thru Saturday.
- If you submit multiple entries, please specify if you would like the teams entered in the same or different leagues. Limit 6 teams per customer per one league.
- If you and your friends would like to be in the same league, please mail the entry forms in together and specify "Same League" or call for special instructions. Limit 6 friends' teams per one league.
- CDM, Inc. is a licensee of the Gannett Satellite Information Network, Inc., and is solely responsible for enacting, administering, enforcing the rules, and maintaining the integrity of *The Challenge.*
- CDM, Inc. reserves the right to revise any rules to improve the *USA TODAY Football Challenge.*
- Further explanation of all rules will be contained in your Welcome Package.
- If you have questions regarding the rules of the *USA TODAY Football Challenge,* please call 1-800-568-6288.

# PLAYERS

**Positions and salaries, as listed here, remain the same all season. N/A indicates that player was not on a team as of April 22, 2001.**

## Kickers

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | LONGWELL, RYAN | GB | 1830 |
| 2 | VANDERJAGT, MIKE | IND | 1790 |
| 3 | ANDERSON, GARY | MIN | 1780 |
| 4 | GRAMATICA, MARTIN | TB | 1740 |
| 5 | MARE, OLINDO | MIA | 1740 |
| 6 | DEL GRECO, AL | N/A | 1740 |
| 7 | STOVER, MATT | BAL | 1720 |
| 8 | CHRISTIE, STEVE | BUF | 1700 |
| 9 | ELAM, JASON | DEN | 1640 |
| 10 | HOLLIS, MIKE | JAC | 1630 |
| 11 | VINATIERI, ADAM | NE | 1630 |
| 12 | AKERS, DAVID | PHI | 1600 |
| 13 | WILKINS, JEFF | STL | 1560 |
| 14 | JANIKOWSKI, SEBASTIAN | RAI | 1550 |
| 15 | BROWN, KRIS | PIT | 1550 |
| 16 | HANSON, JASON | DET | 1540 |
| 17 | HALL, JOHN | NYJ | 1510 |
| 18 | NEDNEY, JOE | TEN | 1470 |
| 19 | ANDERSEN, MORTON | ATL | 1440 |
| 20 | BRIEN, DOUG | N/A | 1440 |
| 21 | KASAY, JOHN | CAR | 1420 |
| 22 | SEDER, TIM | DAL | 1400 |
| 23 | CONWAY, BRETT | WAS | 1370 |
| 24 | CARNEY, JOHN | N/A | 1360 |
| 25 | PETERSON, TODD | KC | 1360 |
| 26 | RICHEY, WADE | SD | 1360 |
| 27 | LINDELL, RYAN | SEA | 1100 |
| 28 | HALL, JEFF | NO | 1100 |
| 29 | BLANCHARD, CARY | ARZ | 1080 |
| 30 | DALUISO, BRAD | NYG | 1080 |
| 31 | EDINGER, PAUL | CHI | 1020 |
| 32 | DAWSON, PHIL | CLE | 1010 |
| 33 | RACKERS, NEIL | CIN | 1000 |
| 34 | MURRAY, EDDIE | N/A | 1000 |

## Quarterbacks

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 101 | MANNING, PEYTON | IND | 3140 |
| 102 | WARNER, KURT | STL | 3090 |
| 103 | GANNON, RICH | RAI | 2740 |
| 104 | BEUERLEIN, STEVE | N/A | 2710 |
| 105 | FAVRE, BRETT | GB | 2650 |
| 106 | BLEDSOE, DREW | NE | 2600 |
| 107 | BRUNELL, MARK | JAC | 2570 |
| 108 | GRBAC, ELVIS | BAL | 2450 |
| 109 | MCNAIR, STEVE | TEN | 2340 |
| 110 | CULPEPPER, DAUNTE | MIN | 2310 |
| 111 | GARCIA, JEFF | SF | 2290 |
| 112 | COLLINS, KERRY | NYG | 2290 |
| 113 | MCNABB, DONOVAN | PHI | 2010 |
| 114 | GRIESE, BRIAN | DEN | 1990 |
| 115 | GREEN, TRENT | KC | 1970 |
| 116 | BLAKE, JEFF | NO | 1950 |
| 117 | CHANDLER, CHRIS | ATL | 1930 |
| 118 | JOHNSON, BRAD | TB | 1890 |
| 119 | FLUTIE, DOUG | SD | 1860 |
| 120 | TESTAVERDE, VINNY | NYJ | 1860 |
| 121 | BATCH, CHARLIE | DET | 1830 |
| 122 | KITNA, JON | CIN | 1820 |
| 123 | PLUMMER, JAKE | ARZ | 1770 |
| 124 | JOHNSON, ROB | BUF | 1680 |
| 125 | CUNNINGHAM, RANDALL | N/A | 1640 |

## Quarterbacks (cont)

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 126 | GEORGE, JEFF | WAS | 1620 |
| 127 | FIEDLER, JAY | MIA | 1600 |
| 128 | AIKMAN, TROY | N/A | 1550 |
| 129 | DILFER, TRENT | N/A | 1530 |
| 130 | STEWART, KORDELL | PIT | 1520 |
| 131 | MCNOWN, CADE | CHI | 1500 |
| 132 | HARBAUGH, JIM | DET | 1440 |
| 133 | FREROTTE, GUS | DEN | 1420 |
| 134 | BANKS, TONY | DAL | 1260 |
| 135 | BROOKS, AARON | NO | 1210 |
| 136 | HASSELBECK, MATT | SEA | 1200 |
| 137 | O'DONNELL, NEIL | TEN | 1150 |
| 138 | KING, SHAUN | TB | 1110 |
| 139 | COUCH, TIM | CLE | 1040 |
| 140 | GRAHAM, KENT | PIT | 1010 |
| 141 | MATTHEWS, SHANE | CHI | 950 |
| 142 | MILLER, JIM | CHI | 900 |
| 143 | HUARD, BROCK | SEA | 880 |
| 144 | LUCAS, RAY | MIA | 860 |
| 145 | HUARD, DAMON | MIA | 810 |
| 146 | LEWIS, JEFF | CAR | 800 |
| 147 | SMITH, AKILI | CIN | 790 |
| 148 | BRISTER, BUBBY | KC | 770 |
| 149 | LEAF, RYAN | TB | 750 |
| 150 | PENNINGTON, CHAD | NYJ | 750 |

## Running Backs

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 201 | FAULK, MARSHALL | STL | 3280 |
| 202 | JAMES, EDGERRIN | IND | 2820 |
| 203 | SMITH, ROBERT | N/A | 2680 |
| 204 | TAYLOR, FRED | JAC | 2440 |
| 205 | DILLON, COREY | CIN | 2320 |
| 206 | GEORGE, EDDIE | TEN | 2070 |
| 207 | SMITH, EMMITT | DAL | 2060 |
| 208 | GARNER, CHARLIE | RAI | 2010 |
| 209 | WATTERS, RICKY | SEA | 1940 |
| 210 | DAVIS, STEPHEN | WAS | 1810 |
| 211 | DAVIS, TERRELL | DEN | 1800 |
| 212 | MARTIN, CURTIS | NYJ | 1750 |
| 213 | DUNN, WARRICK | TB | 1670 |
| 214 | LEWIS, JAMAL | BAL | 1630 |
| 215 | ANDERSON, JAMAL | ATL | 1620 |
| 216 | GREEN, AHMAN | GB | 1620 |
| 217 | BARBER, TIKI | NYG | 1580 |
| 218 | WHEATLEY, TYRONE | RAI | 1580 |
| 219 | BETTIS, JEROME | PIT | 1570 |
| 220 | BIAKABUTUKA, TIM | CAR | 1560 |
| 221 | WILLIAMS, RICKY | NO | 1560 |
| 222 | STALEY, DUCE | PHI | 1540 |
| 223 | SANDERS, BARRY | N/A | 1500 |
| 224 | KAUFMAN, NAPOLEON | N/A | 1500 |
| 225 | SMITH, LAMAR | MIA | 1450 |
| 226 | STEWART, JAMES T | DET | 1440 |
| 227 | HOLMES, PRIEST | KC | 1420 |
| 228 | ANDERSON, MIKE | DEN | 1380 |
| 229 | ALSTOTT, MIKE | TB | 1320 |
| 230 | HUNTLEY, RICHARD | PIT | 1320 |
| 231 | GARY, OLANDIS | DEN | 1180 |
| 232 | PITTMAN, MICHAEL | ARZ | 1170 |
| 233 | ALLEN, TERRY | NO | 1160 |
| 234 | MITCHELL, BRIAN | PHI | 1150 |

## Running Backs (cont)

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 235 | LEVENS, DORSEY | GB | 1140 |
| 236 | PRENTICE, TRAVIS | CLE | 1110 |
| 237 | SMITH, ANTOWAIN | BUF | 1100 |
| 238 | ALLEN, JAMES | CHI | 1080 |
| 239 | WARREN, CHRIS | PHI | 1070 |
| 240 | KIRBY, TERRY | RAI | 1020 |
| 241 | ANDERS, KIMBLE | N/A | 1000 |
| 242 | DAYNE, RON | NYG | 1000 |
| 243 | CHAPMAN, DOUG | MIN | 1000 |
| 244 | FAULK, KEVIN | NE | 980 |
| 245 | REDMOND, J.R. | NE | 950 |
| 246 | RHETT, ERRICT | CLE | 940 |
| 247 | BATES, MARIO | DET | 890 |
| 248 | ALEXANDER, SHAUN | SEA | 840 |
| 249 | JOHNSON, J.J. | MIA | 830 |
| 250 | FAZANDE, JERMAINE | SD | 830 |
| 251 | CENTERS, LARRY | N/A | 830 |
| 252 | BEASLEY, FRED | SF | 820 |
| 253 | BRYSON, SHAWN | BUF | 820 |
| 254 | THOMAS, RODNEY | TEN | 820 |
| 255 | FLETCHER, TERRELL | SD | 810 |
| 256 | MORRIS, SAMMY | BUF | 810 |
| 257 | HICKS, SKIP | WAS | 810 |
| 258 | JONES, THOMAS | ARZ | 800 |
| 259 | WATSON, JUSTIN | STL | 800 |
| 260 | CLOUD, MIKE | KC | 790 |
| 261 | CROCKETT, ZACK | RAI | 790 |
| 262 | SCHLESINGER, CORY | DET | 790 |
| 263 | COMELLA, GREG | NYG | 790 |
| 264 | WILLIAMS, MOE | MIN | 790 |
| 265 | KEATON, CURTIS | CIN | 780 |
| 266 | BENNETT, BRANDON | CIN | 780 |
| 267 | BYNUM, KENNY | SD | 770 |
| 268 | CANIDATE, TRUNG | STL | 770 |
| 269 | CHANCEY, ROBERT | N/A | 760 |
| 270 | EDWARDS, ROBERT | NE | 750 |
| 271 | RICHARDSON, TONY | KC | 750 |
| 272 | LINTON, JONATHAN | BUF | 740 |
| 273 | HOLCOMBE, ROBERT | STL | 710 |
| 274 | HEARST, GARRISON | SF | 710 |
| 275 | MURRELL, ADRIAN | WAS | 680 |
| 276 | ENIS, CURTIS | CLE | 670 |
| 277 | MORTON, CHAD | NO | 660 |
| 278 | MACK, STACEY | JAC | 640 |
| 279 | HOARD, LEROY | N/A | 640 |
| 280 | MOREAU, FRANK | KC | 640 |
| 281 | ANDERSON, RICHIE | NYJ | 620 |
| 282 | HOOVER, BRAD | CAR | 610 |
| 283 | AL-JABBAR, ABDUL-KARIM | IND | 600 |
| 284 | BENNETT, DONNELL | KC | 600 |
| 285 | MONTGOMERY, JOE | NYG | 590 |
| 286 | AUTRY, DARNELL | PHI | 560 |

## Tight Ends

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 401 | GONZALEZ, TONY | KC | 1570 |
| 402 | WALLS, WESLEY | CAR | 1220 |
| 403 | DUDLEY, RICKEY | CLE | 1180 |
| 404 | SHARPE, SHANNON | BAL | 1130 |
| 405 | JONES, FREDDIE | SD | 1070 |
| 406 | WYCHECK, FRANK | TEN | 1050 |
| 407 | POLLARD, MARCUS | IND | 1040 |

## Tight Ends (cont)

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 408 | RIEMERSMA, JAY | BUF | 1030 |
| 409 | BRADY, KYLE | JAC | 1010 |
| 410 | MCGEE, TONY | CIN | 970 |
| 411 | SLOAN, DAVID | DET | 950 |
| 412 | CHAMBERLAIN, BYRON | MIN | 930 |
| 413 | DILGER, KEN | IND | 890 |
| 414 | ALEXANDER, STEPHEN | WAS | 820 |
| 415 | CHMURA, MARK | N/A | 750 |
| 416 | MOORE, DAVE | TB | 710 |
| 417 | GLOVER, ANDREW | N/A | 700 |
| 418 | FRANKS, BUBBA | GB | 680 |
| 419 | COATES, BEN | BAL | 640 |
| 420 | BJORNSON, ERIC | RAI | 630 |
| 421 | LEWIS, CHAD | PHI | 600 |
| 422 | BRUENER, MARK | PIT | 590 |
| 423 | MITCHELL, PETE | NYG | 570 |
| 424 | CLARK, GREG | SF | 570 |
| 425 | FAURIA, CHRISTIAN | SEA | 570 |
| 426 | WILLIAMS, ROLAND | RAI | 550 |
| 427 | HARRIS, JACKIE | DAL | 540 |
| 428 | WIGGINS, JERMAINE | NE | 520 |
| 429 | LAFLEUR, DAVID | DAL | 510 |
| 430 | CLEELAND, CAM | NO | 510 |
| 431 | KELLY, REGGY | ATL | 500 |
| 432 | WEAVER, JED | MIA | 490 |
| 433 | CLARK, DESMOND | DEN | 490 |
| 434 | GOODWIN, HUNTER | MIA | 480 |
| 435 | CONWELL, ERNIE | STL | 480 |
| 436 | CARSWELL, DWAYNE | DEN | 410 |
| 437 | BECHT, ANTHONY | NYJ | 370 |
| 438 | MILI, ITULA | SEA | 360 |
| 439 | MCWILLIAMS, JOHNNY | MIN | 330 |
| 440 | SHEA, AARON | CLE | 320 |
| 441 | HARDY, TERRY | ARZ | 300 |
| 442 | SINCENO, KASEEM | CHI | 300 |

## Wide Receivers

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 501 | MOSS, RANDY | MIN | 2340 |
| 502 | HOLT, TORRY | STL | 2090 |
| 503 | SMITH, ROD | DEN | 1980 |
| 504 | ALEXANDER, DERRICK | KC | 1890 |
| 505 | MOULDS, ERIC | BUF | 1880 |
| 506 | HARRISON, MARVIN | IND | 1820 |
| 507 | OWENS, TERRELL | SF | 1790 |
| 508 | BRUCE, ISAAC | STL | 1690 |
| 509 | SMITH, JIMMY | JAC | 1680 |
| 510 | MCCAFFREY, ED | DEN | 1650 |
| 511 | FREEMAN, ANTONIO | GB | 1550 |
| 512 | BROWN, TIM | RAI | 1540 |
| 513 | CARTER, CRIS | MIN | 1540 |
| 514 | GLENN, TERRY | NE | 1530 |
| 515 | TOOMER, AMANI | NYG | 1530 |
| 516 | BOSTON, DAVID | ARZ | 1510 |
| 517 | HORN, JOE | NO | 1510 |
| 518 | JEFFERSON, SHAWN | ATL | 1510 |
| 519 | MUHAMMAD, MUHSIN | CAR | 1490 |
| 520 | CONNELL, ALBERT | NO | 1470 |
| 521 | GRAHAM, JEFF | SD | 1460 |
| 522 | JOHNSON, KEYSHAWN | TB | 1450 |
| 523 | SCHROEDER, BILL | GB | 1440 |
| 524 | MCCARDELL, KEENAN | JAC | 1400 |

## Wide Receivers (cont)

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 525 | ROBINSON, MARCUS | CHI | 1400 |
| 526 | GALLOWAY, JOEY | DAL | 1390 |
| 527 | MORTON, JOHNNIE | DET | 1390 |
| 528 | PICKENS, CARL | DAL | 1390 |
| 529 | CHREBET, WAYNE | NYJ | 1380 |
| 530 | HAKIM, AZ-ZAHIR | STL | 1370 |
| 531 | GADSDEN, ORONDE | MIA | 1360 |
| 532 | MATHIS, TERANCE | ATL | 1330 |
| 533 | HILLIARD, IKE | NYG | 1330 |
| 534 | MARTIN, TONY | MIA | 1320 |
| 535 | WESTBROOK, MICHAEL | WAS | 1300 |
| 536 | DAWKINS, SEAN | N/A | 1290 |
| 537 | SANDERS, FRANK | ARZ | 1270 |
| 538 | ISMAIL, RAGHIB | DAL | 1220 |
| 539 | CROWELL, GERMANE | DET | 1180 |
| 540 | GREEN, JACQUEZ | TB | 1180 |
| 541 | WARD, DEDRIC | MIA | 1150 |
| 542 | RICE, JERRY | N/A | 1140 |
| 543 | ISMAIL, QADRY | BAL | 1100 |
| 544 | JETT, JAMES | RAI | 1090 |
| 545 | JOHNSON, KEVIN | CLE | 1040 |
| 546 | SMALL, TORRANCE | PHI | 1040 |
| 547 | STOKES, J.J. | SF | 1030 |
| 548 | PRICE, PEERLESS | BUF | 1030 |
| 549 | BROWN, TROY | NE | 1000 |
| 550 | MOORE, HERMAN | DET | 1000 |
| 551 | DWIGHT, TIM | SD | 990 |
| 552 | WARD, HINES | PIT | 950 |
| 553 | POOLE, KEITH | NO | 940 |
| 554 | CONWAY, CURTIS | SD | 920 |
| 555 | THIGPEN, YANCEY | N/A | 920 |
| 556 | SANDERS, CHRIS | TEN | 900 |
| 557 | JACKSON, DARRELL | SEA | 880 |
| 558 | MOORE, ROB | ARZ | 860 |
| 559 | JOHNSON, CHARLES | PHI | 850 |
| 560 | SHEPHERD, LESLIE | MIA | 810 |
| 561 | RISON, ANDRE | RAI | 790 |
| 562 | WARRICK, PETER | CIN | 780 |
| 563 | MCDUFFIE, O.J. | MIA | 770 |
| 564 | WILKINS, TERRENCE | IND | 760 |
| 565 | DYSON, KEVIN | TEN | 750 |
| 566 | THRASH, JAMES | PHI | 750 |
| 567 | KENNISON, EDDIE | CHI | 740 |
| 568 | SCOTT, DARNAY | CIN | 740 |
| 569 | MASON, DERRICK | TEN | 730 |
| 570 | LEWIS, JERMAINE | BAL | 720 |
| 571 | HAYES, DONALD | CAR | 720 |
| 572 | HATCHETTE, MATTHEW | NYJ | 710 |
| 573 | MCKNIGHT, JAMES | DAL | 700 |
| 574 | MAYES, DERRICK | SEA | 700 |
| 575 | MORRIS, SYLVESTER | KC | 700 |
| 576 | JEFFERS, PATRICK | CAR | 690 |
| 577 | MCDANIEL, JEREMY | BUF | 690 |
| 578 | ANTHONY, REIDEL | TB | 680 |
| 579 | FRYAR, IRVING | WAS | 680 |
| 580 | COLES, LAVERANUES | NYJ | 670 |
| 581 | PATTEN, DAVID | CLE | 660 |
| 582 | SIMMONS, TONY | NE | 660 |
| 583 | JACKSON, WILLIE | NO | 640 |
| 584 | PATHON, JEROME | IND | 640 |
| 585 | BURRESS, PLAXICO | PIT | 630 |
| 586 | TAYLOR, TRAVIS | BAL | 630 |

## Wide Receivers (cont)

| ID | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 587 | REED, JAKE | MIN | 620 |
| 588 | LOCKETT, KEVIN | KC | 610 |
| 589 | ENGRAM, BOBBY | CHI | 600 |
| 590 | BOOKER, MARTY | CHI | 600 |
| 591 | EDWARDS, TROY | PIT | 590 |
| 592 | HAWKINS, COURTNEY | PIT | 570 |
| 593 | JOHNSON, PAT | BAL | 570 |
| 594 | JUREVICIUS, JOE | NYG | 560 |
| 595 | BRADFORD, COREY | GB | 550 |
| 596 | GREEN, E.G. | IND | 510 |
| 597 | MCGARITY, WANE | DAL | 510 |
| 598 | SOWARD, R. JAY | JAX | 460 |
| 599 | CHIAVERINI, DARRIN | CLE | 440 |
| 600 | PINKSTON, TODD | PHI | 430 |
| 601 | FARMER, DANNY | CIN | 410 |
| 602 | DAWSON, JA JUAN | CLE | 400 |
| 603 | NORTHCUTT, DENNIS | CLE | 390 |
| 604 | STREETS, TAI | SF | 380 |

## 2001 Draft Choices

| ID | Pos | Player | TM | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 151 | QB | VICK, MICHAEL | ATL | 1000 |
| 152 | QB | BREES, DREW | SD | 900 |
| 153 | QB | CARTER, QUINCY | DAL | 900 |
| 154 | QB | TUIASOSOPO, MARQUES | RAI | 900 |
| 287 | RB | TOMLINSON, LADAINIAN | SD | 1000 |
| 288 | RB | MCALLISTER, DEUCE | NO | 1000 |
| 289 | RB | BENNETT, MICHAEL | MIN | 1000 |
| 290 | RB | THOMAS, ANTHONY | CHI | 900 |
| 291 | RB | JORDAN, LAMONT | NYJ | 900 |
| 292 | RB | HENRY, TRAVIS | BUF | 900 |
| 293 | RB | JACKSON, JAMES | CLE | 800 |
| 294 | RB | BARLOW, KEVAN | SF | 800 |
| 295 | RB | EVANS, HEATH | SEA | 800 |
| 296 | RB | MINOR, TRAVIS | MIA | 800 |
| 443 | TE | HEAP, TODD | BAL | 700 |
| 444 | TE | CRUMPLER, ALGE | ATL | 600 |
| 445 | TE | BREWER, SEAN | CIN | 500 |
| 446 | TE | MEIER, SHAD | TEN | 500 |
| 605 | WR | TERRELL, DAVID | CHI | 1000 |
| 606 | WR | ROBINSON, KOREN | SEA | 1000 |
| 607 | WR | GARDNER, ROD | WAS | 1000 |
| 608 | WR | MOSS, SANTANA | NYJ | 1000 |
| 609 | WR | MITCHELL, FREDDIE | PHI | 1000 |
| 610 | WR | WAYNE, REGGIE | IND | 1000 |
| 611 | WR | MORGAN, QUINCY | CLE | 900 |
| 612 | WR | JOHNSON, CHAD | CIN | 900 |
| 613 | WR | FERGUSON, ROBERT | GB | 900 |
| 614 | WR | CHAMBERS, CHRIS | MIA | 900 |
| 615 | WR | SMITH, STEVE | CAR | 800 |
| 616 | WR | MINNIS, MARVIN | KC | 800 |

All salaries are in 000's.

Players not listed on this page, if selected, must be placed on taxi squad until Week 2. Salary for unlisted players is $1,000,000.

**Complete the entry form and enter your team using Visa, MasterCard or Discover by calling 1-800-568-6288 from 9 AM to 9 PM Monday thru Sunday or by fax (314) 991-1564 anytime. To pay with check or money order mail to: CDM, Inc./USA TODAY Football, 11756 Borman Drive, Suite 220, St. Louis, MO 63146-4133**

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MC/VISA/DISC _____ Exp ____

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First Entry | | |
| Additional Entries | Quantity ___ x $____ = | |
| 12 Purchases | Quantity ___ x $100.00 = | |
| Weekly Reports | Quantity ___ x $ 10.00 = | |
| Additional Address | Quantity ___ x $ 10.00 = | |
| **TOTAL PAYMENT** | | |

Have you played a CDM Challenge before? _____

### II. Starting Team

*Feel free to enlarge or use a separate piece of paper*

| Pos | Id | Name | Salary | Pos | Id | Name | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| K | | | | RB | | | |
| K | | | | RB | | | |
| K | | | | TE | | | |
| QB | | | | TE | | | |
| QB | | | | WR | | | |
| QB | | | | WR | | | |
| RB | | | | WR | | | |
| RB | | | | WR | | | |
| RB | | | | WR | | | |
| RB | | | | WR | | | |

**Total Team Salary** (cannot exceed $30,000,000) $_____

### III. Taxi Squad

| | Id | Name | Salary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | | | |
| 8 | | | |
| 9 | | | |
| 10 | | | |

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DISCOVER

PREVIEW Sports

# BEST IN THE BIZ

**BY ALEX MARVEZ**

The experts have spoken. In compiling PREVIEW SPORTS' Best in the Biz for 2001, we consulted a dozen experts. Scouts, agents, front-office executives and NFL writers all weighed in on the top bruisers and burners. They picked everything from the NFL's best blocker to its most unsung hero to the top role model.

Some choices, such as Chicago linebacker Brian Urlacher being picked as best hitter after only one pro season, may surprise you. Others, like top deep threat Randy Moss, are no-brainers.

Moss' position atop our list of the NFL's Top 50 Players, however, figures to spark some debate. That's part of the fun.

**BEST UNDER PRESSURE**
**BRETT FAVRE**

***Tough Broncos receiver McCaffrey can take a licking and still hang onto the football.***

## BEST UNDER PRESSURE

**1. BRETT FAVRE, GREEN BAY**

The Iceman Winnith. With a 59-12 home record, Favre just might be the best cold-weather quarterback in NFL history. That includes a 27-0 mark when the temperature is 34 degrees or lower. And here's the clincher: Favre has orchestrated 20 fourth-quarter comeback wins at Lambeau Field.

**2. RAY LEWIS, BALTIMORE**

Lewis faced massive scrutiny before Super Bowl XXXV stemming from his connection to a street fight in which two men died in Atlanta following the 2000 title game. Lewis, though, responded by winning Super Bowl Most Valuable Player honors.

**3. KURT WARNER, ST. LOUIS**

Throughout his meteoric rise from supermarket stockboy to anonymous backup to Super Bowl XXXIV's Most Valuable Player, Warner never looked uncomfortable in the spotlight.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Marshall Faulk, St. Louis*

Faulk missed only two games following arthroscopic knee surgery in an MVP season. With a playoff berth on the line, he scored three TDs to bury the Saints.

## BEST HANDS

**1. CRIS CARTER, MINNESOTA**

When the Vikings need a clutch catch, they turn to Carter. Of his 96 receptions last season, 73 went for first downs. And of those, 24 came on third down. No wonder Carter, who says this will be his final season, has led the Vikings in receptions nine consecutive years.

**2. ED McCAFFREY, DENVER**

At least once a game, McCaffrey will look like roadkill after taking a devastating hit. But almost always, he manages to hold onto the football. "His work ethic is exceptional," Broncos wide receivers coach Karl Dorrell says.

**3. ORONDE GADSDEN, MIAMI**

Gadsden has gone from playing in the Arena League to being Miami's leading receiver in 2000. His monster hands and spidery-long fingers—he wears XXXL-sized gloves—help him make the difficult catches.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Isaac Bruce, St. Louis*

Although known more for his speed, Holt still makes our all-hands unit. Heck, the guy has 164 receptions in the last two seasons.

## BEST SHORT-YARDAGE RUNNER

**1. EDDIE GEORGE, TENNESSEE**

George's toughness has earned him the nickname the Beast. His 403 carries last season were the fourth-highest total in league history and just seven shy of Jamal Anderson's 1998 record.

**2. JEROME BETTIS, PITTSBURGH**

In crunch time, Pittsburgh isn't afraid to hop aboard the Bus. The 250-pound Bettis has converted 80.3% (49 of 61) of his third-and-one attempts since 1996, including 12 of 15 last season.

TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT (OPPOSITE); DOUG PENSINGER/ALLSPORT; NFL (MOSS)

# TOP 50 PLAYERS

The draft doesn't lie. Of the top 12 players in our list of the NFL's 50 best, 11 were first-round selections. The lone exception—Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre—was a second-round pick acquired from Atlanta for a first-round selection.

That's not to say pedigree is the only way to make PREVIEW SPORTS' list of the Top 50 NFLers. St. Louis quarterback Kurt Warner (No. 14) wasn't even drafted, while Jacksonville wide receiver Jimmy Smith (No. 13) and Oakland quarterback Rich Gannon (No. 43) each spent a year out of football because no NFL teams wanted them. Now those three, like every other player in our Top 50, won't have to worry about wearing "Will Play for Food" signs any time soon.

### 1. RANDY MOSS, WR, MINNESOTA

Teams that let Moss slip to the 21st overall selection in the 1998 draft are reminded on a regular basis of the mistake they made. In his first three seasons, Moss has more catches (226), yards (4,163) and touchdowns (43) than Jerry Rice—the NFL's all-time leader in each category—had at the same point in his career. Plus, Moss' success has come with a different starting quarterback each year (Randall Cunningham, Jeff George and Daunte Culpepper). With his combination of size (6'4") and speed, Moss has the rare ability to almost single-handedly take control of a game. He also has room for improvement: Giving all-out effort on every play should be his next goal.

### 2. PEYTON MANNING, QB, INDIANAPOLIS

Think the Colts made the right move by drafting Manning over Ryan Leaf with the top pick in 1998? Manning has yet to miss an NFL start and averaged 4,096 passing yards in each of his first three seasons, putting him on pace for an even more productive NFL career than Dan Marino's. But it's also the not-so-obvious that makes Manning great. No quarterback studies harder or runs the play-action pass better. The next step for Manning is to take the Colts deep into the playoffs.

### 3. MARSHALL FAULK, RB, ST. LOUIS

The Rams envisioned their own Marshall Plan when they obtained Faulk from Indianapolis for second- and fifth-round draft picks in 1999. That was a shockingly small price to pay for the most dangerous all-around player in the game. In 1999, Faulk set the NFL's single-season record for yards from scrimmage (2,429) as St. Louis won its first Super Bowl. He was even better last season, scoring an NFL-record 26 touchdowns and winning the league's MVP award despite missing two games with a knee injury.

### 4. WARREN SAPP, DT, TAMPA BAY

Sapp loves to talk (and talk and talk), but he can back up every word on the field. Despite constant double teams, he gets to the quarterback better than any other interior lineman in the game. See 2000's career-best 16½ sacks.

## TOP 50 PLAYERS

### 5. EDGERRIN JAMES, RB, INDIANAPOLIS

Replacing Faulk in Indianapolis was an unenviable task, but James has made it look easy. The Edge won his second consecutive NFL rushing title in 2000, running for 1,709 yards and 13 touchdowns. James should only get better: On Aug. 1, he turns just 23.

### 6. RAY LEWIS, LB, BALTIMORE

He didn't get an invitation to Disney World after winning Super Bowl XXXV MVP honors, but every NFL team would welcome Lewis to play middle linebacker. The best player on the league's best defense, Lewis refused to let a murder trial—he eventually pleaded guilty to obstructing justice—affect his on-field focus. In fact, he seemed more determined than ever to lead his team to victory.

### 7. BRETT FAVRE, QB, GREEN BAY

Four things you can count on: death, taxes, freezing temperatures at Lambeau Field and Favre under center for the Packers. His string of 141 consecutive starts is an NFL record for a quarterback. The first $100-million QB in league history, Favre, who turns 32 in October, has survived player turnover all around him and needs just 294 passing yards for 35,000 in his career.

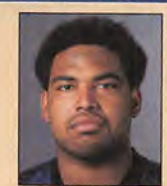
### 8. TONY BOSELLI, T, JACKSONVILLE

A dominant player since entering the NFL in 1995, Boselli showed his resiliency last season. Eight months after tearing his right anterior cruciate ligament, the 6'7", 320-pound offensive tackle was back in the starting lineup for the 2000 season opener. Despite practicing only on Wednesdays, Boselli was voted to start his fourth consecutive Pro Bowl.

### 9. CHAMP BAILEY, CB, WASHINGTON

Deion Sanders may be finished with football, and Darrell Green is nearing the end, but with Bailey in uniform the Redskins secondary is still in good hands. The 23-year-old blossomed in his second NFL season, leading the Redskins with five interceptions.

### 10. JONATHAN OGDEN, T, BALTIMORE



There's a good reason Baltimore gave Ogden the largest signing bonus ($16 million) in NFL history last year as part of his new contract: He's worth every penny. The 6'8", 340-pound tackle anchors the Ravens' O-line and can shut down the game's best pass rushers single-handedly.

### 11. EDDIE GEORGE, RB, TENNESSEE

The old adage is that tall running backs struggle in the NFL, but don't tell that to George. The 6'3", 240-pound back continues to plow through defenses, finishing third in the NFL last season with a career-high 1,509 rushing yards. This year he could become the first player in NFL history to rush for 1,200-plus yards in each of his first six seasons.

**3. EDGERRIN JAMES, INDIANAPOLIS**
James has more touchdowns (35) than any other NFLer in his first two seasons. Though not a bruiser, 19 of James' TDs were scored on one- or two-yard runs.

**HONORABLE MENTION**
*Emmitt Smith, Dallas*
Smith's also more crafty than hard-nosed, but of his NFL-record 145 rushing touchdowns, 60 were scored from either one or two yards out.

## BEST PASS RUSHER

**1. WARREN SAPP, TAMPA BAY**
After recording 12½ sacks in 1999, Sapp set another career high last season with 16½—despite being the focus of opponents' blocking schemes. "You don't get very many guys who are his size [6'2", 303] and have his speed and quickness," Buccaneers general manager Rich McKay says.

**2. TRACE ARMSTRONG, OAKLAND**
Armstrong admits he isn't among the NFL's quickest or strongest ends, but his tenacity makes amends. How else does a 35-year-old record a career-high 16½ sacks in his 12th NFL campaign?

**3. JEVON KEARSE, TENNESSEE**
The Freak show continued for the Titans last season, with Kearse logging a team-high 11½ sacks. Kearse's total of 26½ sacks is the third-highest for any second-year player in NFL history.

**HONORABLE MENTION**
*Jason Taylor, Miami*
Able to play at 255 pounds without getting bulled over in run defense, Taylor used his speed to register a career-high 14½ sacks in 2000.

## BEST DEEP THREAT

**1. RANDY MOSS, MINNESOTA**
Vikings quarterbacks have it easy: Just throw the football as far as they can and have Moss run under it. In only three seasons, he already holds the franchise record with 16 plays of 50-plus yards. Moss also has 30 catches of 40-plus yards, 18 of which have gone for TDs.

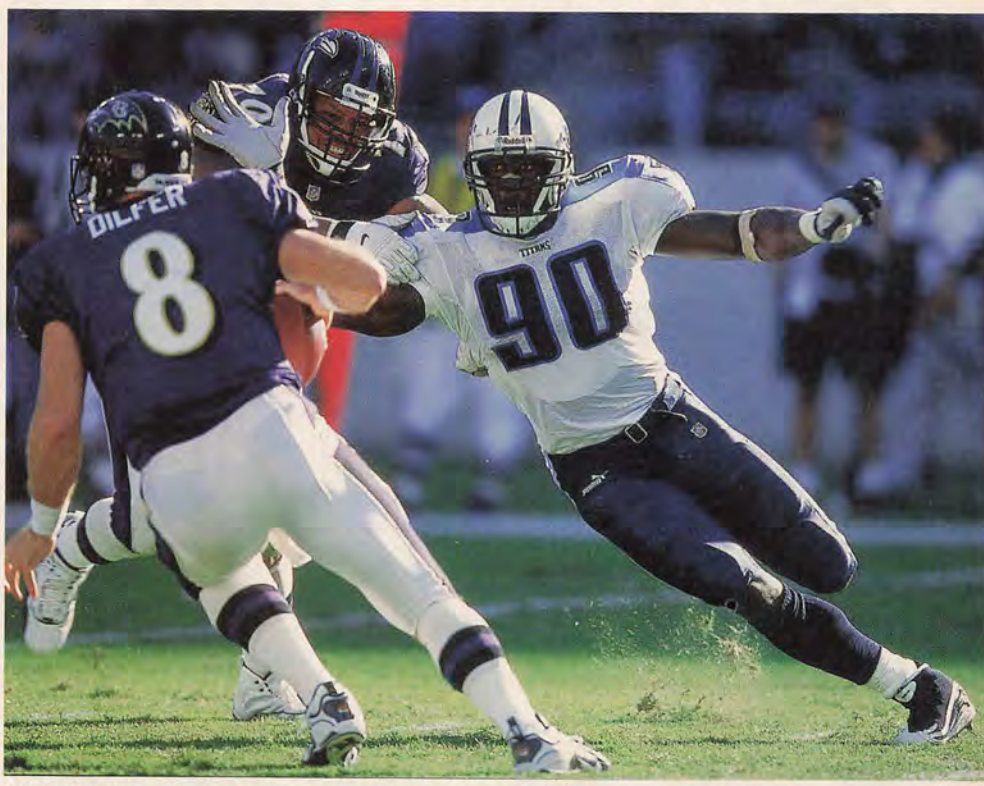
**2. MARVIN HARRISON, INDIANAPOLIS**
Of Harrison's 47 touchdown catches in five NFL seasons, 20 have covered 20-plus yards. He also caught a career-high four passes of 50-plus yards in 2000.

**3. TORRY HOLT, ST. LOUIS**
In his second NFL season, Holt, who has track-star speed, led the high-powered Rams in plays over 20 yards (30).

**HONORABLE MENTION**
*Eric Moulds, Buffalo*
At his current pace, five-year veteran Moulds will surpass Andre Reed as the most prolific receiver in Bills history.

## BEST GENERAL MANAGER

**1. BILL POLIAN, INDIANAPOLIS**
The man who helped get Buffalo to three Super Bowls and built Carolina into a winner in just two seasons has worked his magic again in Indianapolis. After consecutive 3-13 seasons, the Colts




***Titan Kearse, owner of a Freakish two-year sack total, loves to send QBs scurrying.***

***When Moss gets deep, chances are he'll outrun a defense and take it to the house.***

have gone 23-9 the past two years and are considered a favorite to reach Super Bowl XXXVI.

**2. JOHN BUTLER, SAN DIEGO**

Butler kept Buffalo strong after replacing Polian from 1993 to 2000. Butler's latest challenge is to rebuild the lowly Chargers, and judging by his off-season moves, he's off to a strong start.

**3. RICH McKAY, TAMPA BAY**

Before McKay became general manager in 1995, the Buccaneers were 43-116 in the previous 10 seasons. Since McKay arrived, Tampa Bay has gone 54-47.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Randy Mueller, New Orleans*

Although 2000 was his first season as a GM, Mueller already has earned respect for turning the Saints into a legitimate contender in a hurry.

## BEST UNSUNG HERO

**1. SAM ADAMS, BALTIMORE**

As one team official says, "Playing next to [Tony] Siragusa makes anyone seem unsung." While Siragusa hogs the headlines with his outgoing personality, Adams' play at the other defensive tackle slot was critical in the Ravens allowing just 970 rushing yards last year, an NFL record for a 16-game season.

**2. MARCUS POLLARD, INDIANAPOLIS**

With 64 catches the past two years, tight end Pollard's receiving skills have started to draw some defensive attention away from teammates Edgerrin James and Marvin Harrison.

**3. PAT WILLIAMS, BUFFALO**

So confident are the Bills that Williams is developing into one of the AFC's best defensive tackles, they released run-stuffing monster Ted Washington to clear salary-cap room.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Jeremiah Trotter, Philadelphia*

As the Eagles continue to rise, Trotter will gain more recognition as one of the NFL's best young middle linebackers.

## BEST RETURNER

**1. DERRICK MASON, TENNESSEE**

Mason's return prowess helped him set the NFL's single-season record for all-purpose yardage at 2,690 last season. Of that total, 66.7% (1,794 yards) was gained on punt and kick returns.

**2. JERMAINE LEWIS, BALTIMORE**

Lewis set an NFL record last year with a 16.3-yard punt-return average, the highest ever for a player with at least 30 attempts. Lewis, who scored on an 84-yard kick return in Super Bowl XXXV, has six career punt return TDs.

**3. DESMOND HOWARD, DETROIT**

Howard enjoyed a rebirth in Detroit last year, logging a career-high 1,858 return yards to earn the first Pro Bowl invite of his nine-year career. He needs two TDs to pass Eric Metcalf (9) for the most scores on punt returns.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Az-Zahir Hakim, St. Louis*

Although fumble-prone, the electrifying Hakim led the NFC in punt-return average last season at 15.3 yards.

## BEST PASS COVERAGE

**1. CHAMP BAILEY, WASHINGTON**

Bailey emerged as a top pass defender in his second NFL season. He had a

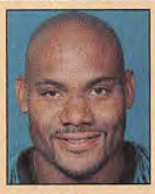
DOUG PENSINGER/ALLSPORT (OPPPOSITE); BRIAN BAHR/ALLSPORT; NFL (JAMES, OGDEN, SMITH)

# TOP 50 PLAYERS

### 12. CHARLES WOODSON, CB, OAKLAND

The 1997 Heisman Trophy winner at Michigan, Woodson was voted the NFL's Defensive Rookie of the Year in 1998 and hasn't slowed down since. Woodson (four interceptions in 2000, 10 for his career) and Eric Allen (six picks in 2000) are Oakland's best pair of cornerbacks since Lester Hayes and Mike Haynes in the mid-1980s.

### 13. JIMMY SMITH, WR, JACKSONVILLE



Smith doesn't get the recognition that some other big-name receivers do, but his statistics over the past five seasons justify his status as one of the NFL's best: 450 receptions, 6,599 yards and 33 touchdowns. In one game last year, Smith, who has averaged 14.6 yards per catch in his career, lit up the vaunted Baltimore defense for 291 receiving yards.

### 14. KURT WARNER, QB, ST. LOUIS

Warner will never have to return to his old job stacking shelves at an Iowa supermarket. Despite missing five starts last season with a broken pinkie, Warner proved his magical 1999 campaign was no fluke. He completed 67.7% of his passes for 3,429 yards and 21 touchdowns.

### 15. MARVIN HARRISON, WR, INDY

In just five seasons, Harrison already is the second-leading receiver in Colts history with 413 catches. His 1999 numbers—115 grabs for 1,663 yards—are both single-season team records. That Harrison has 217 catches in the last two years without another quality receiver on the roster is amazing.

### 16. MICHAEL STRAHAN, DE, N.Y. GIANTS

More than 20 NFL players had more sacks than Strahan (9½) last season, but none had to face more double and triple teams. The attention he drew helped defensive tackle Keith Hamilton get to the quarterback a team-high 10 times.

### 17. ORLANDO PACE, T, ST. LOUIS

In his fourth NFL season, Pace continued to show why, in 1997, he was the first offensive lineman selected No. 1 overall in the NFL draft in 30 years. Pace was the cornerstone of an offense that set a single-season record for yards (7,075).

### 18. CURTIS MARTIN, RB, N.Y. JETS

A true thing of beauty in the NFL is watching Martin tear outside on one of New York's patented sweeps. Martin continued to produce as a rusher (1,204 yards) and receiver (career-high 70 catches) last season.

### 19. COREY DILLON, RB, CINCINNATI

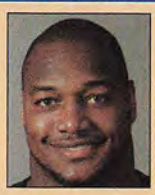
Dillon had two 200-yard games last year behind an awful O-line, including an NFL-record 278-yard day against Denver. "Without him, we're set back at least five years," Bengals tackle Willie Anderson says. With him, plus free-agent additions tackle Richmond Webb and fullback Lorenzo Neal, Cincy will move the football.

## TOP 50 PLAYERS

**20. JEVON KEARSE, DE, TENNESSEE**
After breaking the NFL rookie record with 14 1/2 sacks in 1999, Kearse had "only" 11 1/2 in 2000—eight in his last seven regular-season games. The total will rise as he adds technique to his incredible athleticism.

**21. SAM MADISON, CB, MIAMI**
Considering Miami plays almost exclusive man-to-man coverage, Madison has earned his two straight Pro Bowl berths the hard way. With 20 INTs the past three seasons, he's already considered the best corner in franchise history.

**22. DERRICK BROOKS, LB, TAMPA BAY**



From a coverage and production standpoint, Brooks may be the NFL's best all-around linebacker. He has made at least 145 tackles in each of the past four seasons for one of the NFL's most talented defenses.

**23. TONY GONZALEZ, TE, KANSAS CITY**
At a time when receptions for tight ends are dropping, Gonzalez, whose quickness is a headache for linebackers, had six 100-yard games in 2000. Overall, he snagged 93 passes for 1,203 yards, the first 1,000-yard season by a tight end since 1997.

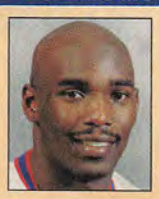
**24. CHRIS McALISTER, CB, BALTIMORE**
How about this for confidence: McAlister actually talked about shutting out the Giants before Super Bowl XXXV. But with his four interceptions and tight coverage in his second NFL season, McAlister has shown he can also walk the walk.

**25. ISAAC BRUCE, WR, ST. LOUIS**
Healthy the past two seasons, Bruce has regained his status as one of the NFL's most difficult receivers to cover. He had a team-high 87 catches last season, and secondaries' respect for Bruce helped teammate Torry Holt have a breakout campaign.

**26. TERRELL OWENS, WR, SAN FRANCISCO**
Yes, there is life after Jerry Rice in San Francisco, thanks to Owens' emergence. Terrell, who grabbed an NFL-record 20 passes for 283 yards in Rice's final home game last Dec. 17, set career-bests in catches (97) and yards (1,451) in 2000.

**27. JUNIOR SEAU, LB, SAN DIEGO**
Seau, 32, may as well purchase a home in Hawaii considering all the time he spends there for the Pro Bowl. He was voted to his 10th last season and should return for an 11th this year if he can stay healthy.

**28. ERIC MOULDS, WR, BUFFALO**



The Bills were wise to ink Moulds to a six-year, $42-million extension in February to keep him from free agency. He caught a career-high 94 balls for 1,326 yards last year and has at least one grab in 49 straight games.

team-high five interceptions as well as 14 passes defensed. Bailey also is a sure-handed tackler.

**2. SAM MADISON, MIAMI**
Dolphins coach Dave Wannstedt considers Madison a "shut-down corner," which is why he's often assigned to blanket an opponent's best receiver. Madison is the only Dolphins cornerback ever voted to the Pro Bowl.

**3. CHARLES WOODSON, OAKLAND**
The fact that Woodson, a three-time Pro Bowl corner, defensed only 13 passes in 16 starts last year shows how teams avoid throwing his way.

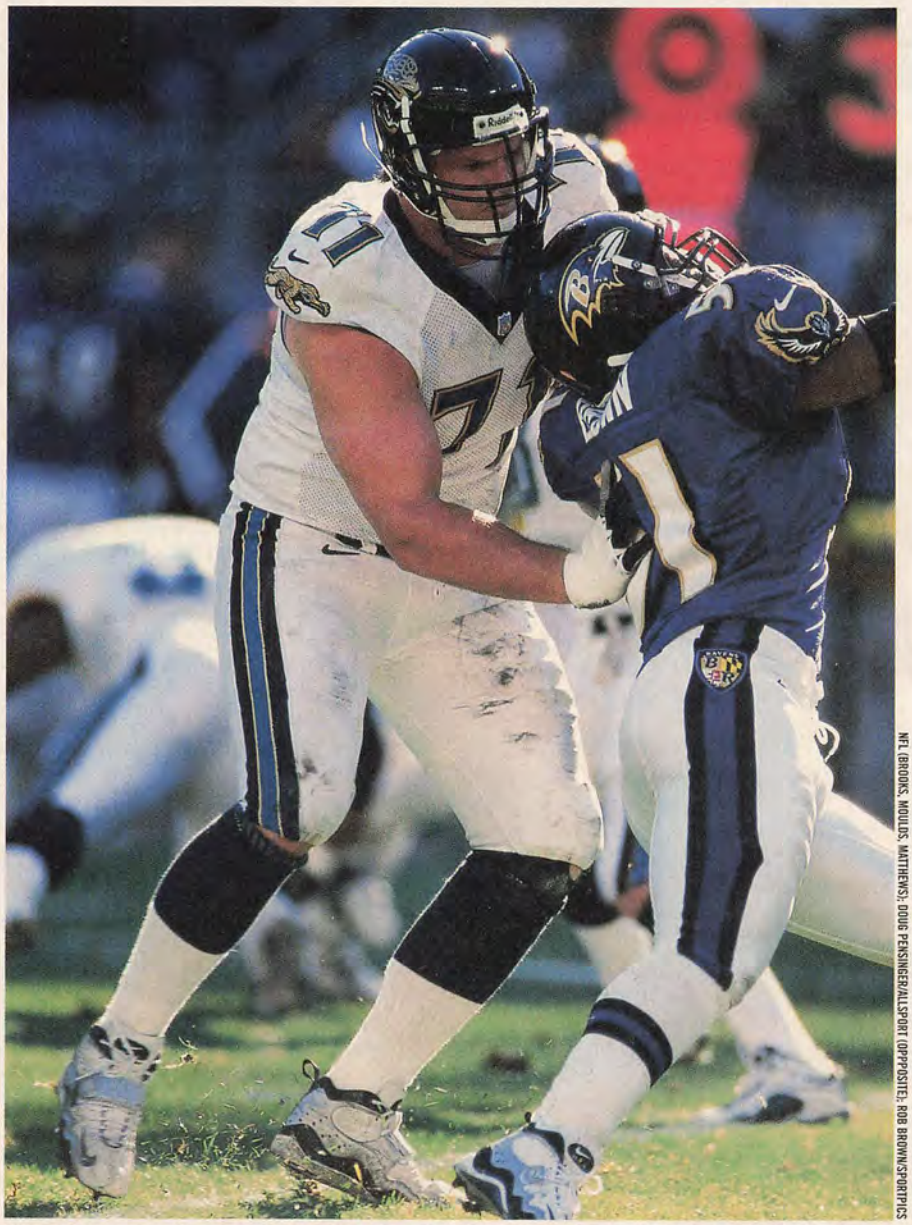
**HONORABLE MENTION**
*Samari Rolle, Tennessee*
Nicknamed the Glove, Rolle, who almost left for St. Louis this off-season, tied for the AFC lead with seven picks last year.

### BEST BLOCKER

**1. TONY BOSELLI, JACKSONVILLE**
By his own admission, Boselli wasn't completely healthy in 2000 due to a knee injury suffered the previous season. But look out this year. "What he accomplished in 2000 coming off his injury, and the courage he displayed, was remarkable," Jaguars coach Tom Coughlin says.

**2. JONATHAN OGDEN, BALTIMORE**
"Being 6'9" with his incredible size and moves, that speaks for itself," Washington defensive end (and future Hall of Famer) Bruce Smith says. "He is the premier tackle in the league." Few defensive ends would disagree.

**3. ORLANDO PACE, ST. LOUIS**
Pace deserves plenty of credit for the Rams leading the NFL in total offense



***Boselli remains the game's best blocker despite a knee injury that slowed him in 2000.***

NFL (BROOKS, MOULDS, MATTHEWS); DOUG PENSINGER/ALLSPORT (OPPOSITE); ROB BROWN/SPORTPICS

*Siragusa is a key cog in the Ravens' ferocious run defense.*

(442.2-yard average) and points per game (33.8) last season.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Kyle Turley, New Orleans*

Move over, Willie Roaf. Turley is now the best blocker in the Big Easy.

## BEST RUN-STUFFER

**1. TED WASHINGTON, CHICAGO**

Count Dolphins Pro Bowl center Tim Ruddy among the many AFC East O-linemen and running backs happy to see Washington leave Buffalo and sign with the Bears. "He's probably the strongest guy we play against every year," Ruddy says of the 6'5", 330-pound behemoth.

**2. TONY SIRAGUSA, BALTIMORE**

Known as the Goose, the 340-pound, hole-plugging Siragusa is a major reason the Ravens haven't allowed a 100-yard rusher in an NFL-best 33 games.

**3. TIM BOWENS, MIAMI**

Bowens is a survivor of life in the trenches, having missed just one game in his seven-year NFL career. The linemen Bowens takes on helps free middle linebacker Zach Thomas to make a ton of tackles.

## TOP 50 PLAYERS

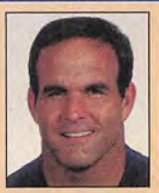
**29. KEYSHAWN JOHNSON, WR, TAMPA**

The Buccaneers would be well advised to just get Johnson the damn ball. Despite being underutilized in his first season in Tampa Bay, Johnson still led the team with 71 receptions for 874 yards and eight touchdowns.

**30. FRED TAYLOR, RB, JACKSONVILLE**

If the 25-year-old Taylor can ever stay healthy for an entire year, the single-season rushing record is in jeopardy. He averaged 126.4 yards in his final 10 games of 2000, including nine straight 100-plus-yard games, after recovering from a preseason knee injury.

**31. BRUCE MATTHEWS, G, TENNESSEE**



An ageless wonder, the 40-year-old Matthews has never missed a game due to injury and has 197 consecutive starts. Only George Blanda (340) and Jim Marshall (282) have played in more NFL games than Matthews' 280 contests.

**32. TIM BROWN, WR, OAKLAND**

Brown, 35 in July, has not slowed down. He had his eighth consecutive 1,000-yard season in 2000 with a career-high 11 TDs, and he needs 154 grabs for 1,000 in his career.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1st - $150.00 • 2nd - $50.00 • 3rd - Free Entry

• Consolation (all teams)
1st - $500.00 • 2nd - $150.00 • 3rd - Free Entry

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**33. CRIS CARTER, WR, MINNESOTA**
Cornerbacks will throw a party if this really is Carter's final NFL season—as he claims. Last year he became the second receiver in NFL history to reach 1,000 career receptions.

**34. LARRY ALLEN, G, DALLAS**
A dominant blocker, Allen is only the third offensive lineman ever voted to the Pro Bowl at two different positions (guard, tackle). The only position he hasn't played is center.

**35. SAMARI ROLLE, CB, TENNESSEE**
Another in a long line of quality Florida State CBs, Rolle, a.k.a. the Glove, came into his own in 2000 with a career-high seven INTs.

**36. DREW BLEDSOE, QB, NEW ENGLAND**

At age 29, Bledsoe already has thrown for nearly 30,000 yards. Last year he showed his toughness by taking 45 sacks without missing a start. Such heart helped Bledsoe land a $100-million extension in the off-season.

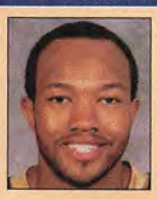
**37. BLAINE BISHOP, S, TENNESSEE**
Considering his hard-hitting style of play, it should come as no surprise that Bishop knocked himself out of Super Bowl XXXIV against St. Louis while making a tackle. He recovered to earn his first starting Pro Bowl berth last season.

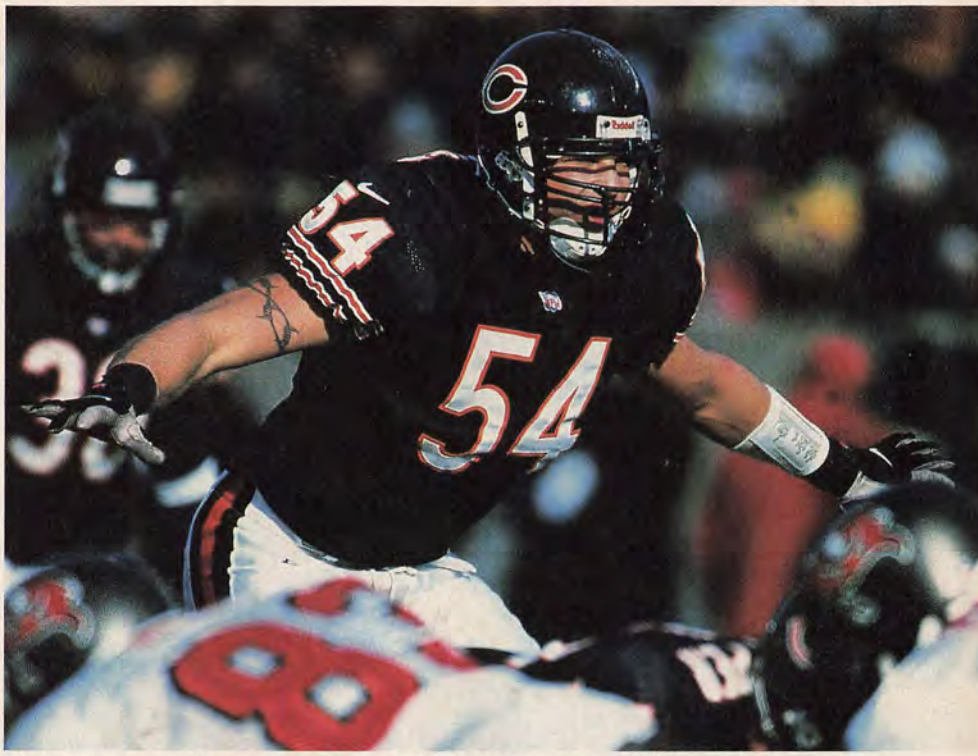
**38. ROB BURNETT, DE, BALTIMORE**
In his 11th season, the 270-pounder showed he's more than just a quality run-stuffer by racking up a career-high 10 1/2 sacks. Burnett is one of the few Ravens still with the team from its days in Cleveland.

**39. HUGH DOUGLAS, DE, PHILADELPHIA**
Bill Parcells rarely makes mistakes, but it was a sizeable error for the Jets to trade Douglas to the Eagles in 1998. Douglas has 29 1/2 sacks in 35 games for Philadelphia, including a career-high 15 in 2000.

**40. JEROME BETTIS, RB, PITTSBURGH**
The Steelers know they still can count on the Bus to drive their ground game. Bettis is coming off his most productive season (1,341 rushing yards, 8 TDs) since '97 and enters this year 196 yards shy of 10,000 for his career.

**41. EMMITT SMITH, RB, DALLAS**
With 15,166 rushing yards, Smith needs only 103 to pass Barry Sanders for second place in league history. At his current pace, Smith, 32, should catch all-time leader Walter Payton (16,726) early in the 2002 season.

**42. TORRY HOLT, WR, ST. LOUIS**

Holt's impressive performance as a rookie in Super Bowl XXXIV (team-high seven catches for 109 yards) was a preview of highlights to come. He led the NFL in receiving yards last year with 1,635 on only 82 catches.



***Hard-hitting Bear Urlacher is carrying on Chicago's great middle linebacker legacy.***

**HONORABLE MENTION**
*Sam Cowart, Buffalo*
With an amazing 129 tackles in just 12 games last season—just four fewer than he had in 16 games in 1999—Cowart has finally started receiving recognition as one of the NFL's best linebackers.

## BEST HITTER

**1. BRIAN URLACHER, CHICAGO**
If his rookie season is any indication, Urlacher's name may someday be mentioned along with legendary Bears linebackers Dick Butkus and Mike Singletary. "To see some of the things he's doing at such an early stage, I want to be [on the same team] with him," Bears defensive end Bryan Robinson says.

**2. RAY LEWIS, BALTIMORE**
Lewis likes to compare his tackling style to that of Hall of Fame safety Ronnie Lott. "He threw his body out there," Lewis says of the former 49ers great. "That's what I'll do until the end."

**3. JOHN LYNCH, TAMPA BAY**
Lott holds Lynch in high regard after a standout 2000 season. "He could always hit with anyone," Lott says. "Now, he's improved as far as his play on the ball."

**HONORABLE MENTION**
*Lawyer Milloy, New England*
Milloy has led the Patriots in tackles for three consecutive seasons.

## BEST ROLE MODEL

**1. PEYTON MANNING, INDIANAPOLIS**
A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Tennessee, Manning has continued to impress with his off-the-field endeavors as a professional. He has established the PeyBack Foundation to help disadvantaged kids and remains actively involved with NCAA projects. Manning is also excellent with the media, which isn't often the case with star players.

**2. DERRICK BROOKS, TAMPA BAY**
*The Sporting News* honored Brooks as the 2000 winner of its "Good Guy Award," given annually to the athlete who makes the biggest difference in his community. Brooks took underprivileged children from east Tampa to South Africa last year and planned to take the same group this summer to the Grand Canyon.

**3. TRACE ARMSTRONG, OAKLAND**
Miami has a huge leadership void to fill with the free-agent departure of Armstrong to the Raiders. In South Florida, Armstrong, a fierce pass rusher, was well respected for his work ethic, charity work and service as president of the NFL Players Association.

**HONORABLE MENTION**
*Eddie George, Tennessee*
George says he probably would be working at McDonald's had he not learned the importance of academics after being sent to prep school. Following Super Bowl XXXIV, in which George's Titans fell to the St. Louis Rams, he took the time to complete his undergraduate degree in landscape architecture at Ohio State.

JONATHAN DANIEL/ALLSPORT (OPPPOSITE); TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT; NFL (BLEDSOE, HOLT, WILLIAMS, GLOVER)

***Colts QB Manning's impressive accomplishments extend far beyond the playing field.***

## TOP 50 PLAYERS

### 43. RICH GANNON, QB, OAKLAND

Though he turned 35 last December, Gannon had his second straight 3,400-yard passing season and led all AFC quarterbacks with 529 rushing yards. He also provides immeasurable leadership and stability—something Oakland hasn't had from a signal-caller since the Jim Plunkett era.

### 44. AENEAS WILLIAMS, CB, ST. LOUIS

He considered retirement, but that was before the Rams rescued him from Arizona in an April trade. Williams, who has averaged five picks a year the past seven seasons, leaves the Cardinals with 46 interceptions, just six short of the franchise record.

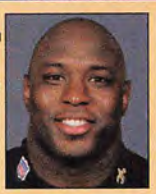
### 45. KEVIN MAWAE, C, N.Y. JETS

When the Jets reconstructed their offensive line in 1998, Mawae was the player the team wisely chose to build around. A Pro Bowl starter the past two seasons, Mawae has started 75 consecutive games.

### 46. BRIAN GRIESE, QB, DENVER

The Broncos are so confident Griese is their long-term answer under center, they gave him a six-year, $39 million contract extension. Griese had 19 touchdown passes and just four interceptions—plus an NFL-best 102.9 passer rating—in 10 games before injuring his shoulder last season.

### 47. LA'ROI GLOVER, DT, NEW ORLEANS



From NFL Europe to the Pro Bowl, Glover's path to stardom is just as remarkable as his 2000 season. Quick enough to beat most interior linemen, Glover had an NFL-best 17 sacks for a Saints squad that paced the league with 66.

### 48. MO LEWIS, LB, N.Y. JETS

Few if any other linebackers get to the quarterback as effectively as Lewis, who holds the Jets' record for sacks at his position with 48 1/2 (including 10 in 2000). He has made three straight Pro Bowls despite switching between 3-4 and 4-3 defensive systems.

### 49. TREVOR PRYCE, DT, DENVER

Pryce, once viewed as a first-round bust, signed a $60 million deal in the off-season. The anchor of the Broncos' D-line has averaged 11 sacks the past three years.

### 50. ROD SMITH, WR, DENVER

It doesn't take someone with three undergraduate degrees, like the ones Smith earned at Missouri Southern, to figure out what makes a great receiver. A combination of athleticism and deceptive speed helped Smith become the only NFL receiver to finish in the top four in the league in both catches (100) and receiving yardage (1,602) last season.

**The entire *Top 50 list* appears in the *Center-spread (p. 88-89)*, featuring *No. 1 Randy Moss.***

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# WEEKLY

April, 2001

# JAGUAR OFFERS PRE-SEASON NEW ACCOUNT SIGNUP BONUS!

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|---|---|---|
| 2 Teams 14:5<br>3 Teams 6.5:1<br>4 Teams 13:1<br>5 Teams 25:1 | 2 Teams 6:1<br>3 Teams 15:1<br>*Ask about "If Bets" & "Action Points"* | 6 Points 100:110<br>6.5 Points 100:115<br>7 Points 100:120 |

# NFL 2001

## Preview Sports' Team Rankings

### OUR MASTER LIST

1. Rams
2. Ravens
3. Titans
4. Raiders
5. Colts
6. Buccaneers
7. Eagles
8. Broncos
9. Saints
10. Giants
11. Dolphins
12. Seahawks
13. 49ers
14. Jaguars
15. Packers
16. Bills
17. Lions
18. Jets
19. Chargers
20. Chiefs
21. Vikings
22. Redskins
23. Steelers
24. Patriots
25. Cowboys
26. Cardinals
27. Falcons
28. Bears
29. Panthers
30. Browns
31. Bengals

| OFFENSE | DEFENSE | SPECIAL TEAMS |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Rams | 1. Ravens | 1. Titans |
| 2. Colts | 2. Buccaneers | 2. Rams |
| 3. Raiders | 3. Dolphins | 3. Ravens |
| 4. Broncos | 4. Titans | 4. Dolphins |
| 5. Jaguars | 5. Redskins | 5. Seahawks |
| 6. Ravens | 6. Saints | 6. Eagles |
| 7. Seahawks | 7. Giants | 7. Colts |
| 8. Titans | 8. Eagles | 8. Steelers |
| 9. 49ers | 9. Raiders | 9. Chargers |
| 10. Jets | 10. Lions | 10. Patriots |
| 11. Giants | 11. Bills | 11. Lions |
| 12. Buccaneers | 12. Chargers | 12. Panthers |
| 13. Vikings | 13. 49ers | 13. Cowboys |
| 14. Saints | 14. Broncos | 14. Raiders |
| 15. Eagles | 15. Patriots | 15. Saints |
| 16. Chiefs | 16. Jets | 16. Falcons |
| 17. Packers | 17. Steelers | 17. Broncos |
| 18. Redskins | 18. Bears | 18. Vikings |
| 19. Dolphins | 19. Packers | 19. Packers |
| 20. Bills | 20. Seahawks | 20. Jets |
| 21. Steelers | 21. Jaguars | 21. Buccaneers |
| 22. Cowboys | 22. Rams | 22. Giants |
| 23. Bengals | 23. Colts | 23. Bills |
| 24. Lions | 24. Chiefs | 24. Chiefs |
| 25. Chargers | 25. Browns | 25. Cardinals |
| 26. Patriots | 26. Falcons | 26. Jaguars |
| 27. Cardinals | 27. Cowboys | 27. Browns |
| 28. Bears | 28. Panthers | 28. 49ers |
| 29. Falcons | 29. Bengals | 29. Bears |
| 30. Panthers | 30. Cardinals | 30. Redskins |
| 31. Browns | 31. Vikings | 31. Bengals |

# Insider Report


| NFC EAST | page |
|---|---|
| Philadelphia Eagles | 40 |
| New York Giants | 43 |
| Washington Redskins | 46 |
| Dallas Cowboys | 49 |
| Arizona Cardinals | 52 |

Eagles must break a nine-game losing skid vs. Jints to win the East.

| NFC CENTRAL | page |
|---|---|
| Tampa Bay Buccaneers | 55 |
| Green Bay Packers | 60 |
| Detroit Lions | 63 |
| Minnesota Vikings | 66 |
| Chicago Bears | 69 |

Bucs are the class of this division, though the Pack could make noise.

| NFC WEST | page |
|---|---|
| St. Louis Rams | 72 |
| New Orleans Saints | 75 |
| San Francisco 49ers | 78 |
| Atlanta Falcons | 81 |
| Carolina Panthers | 84 |

With a revamped D, St. Louis wants revenge on the surging Saints.


## NFC CHAMPIONS: ST. LOUIS RAMS

## SUPER BOWL XXXVI CHAMPION ST. LOUIS RAMS

In the ultimate battle of offense versus defense, the Rams edge the Ravens, thanks to Super Bowl MVP Marshall Faulk's running and receiving.

## AFC CHAMPIONS: BALTIMORE RAVENS


| AFC EAST | page |
|---|---|
| Indianapolis Colts | 90 |
| Miami Dolphins | 96 |
| Buffalo Bills | 100 |
| New York Jets | 103 |
| New England Patriots | 106 |

Colts have the offense; Dolphins have the D. But Indy has Manning.

| AFC CENTRAL | page |
|---|---|
| Baltimore Ravens | 110 |
| Tennessee Titans | 113 |
| Jacksonville Jaguars | 118 |
| Pittsburgh Steelers | 121 |
| Cleveland Browns | 124 |
| Cincinnati Bengals | 127 |

Ravens and Titans, both solid, figure to fight this one to the finish.

| AFC WEST | page |
|---|---|
| Oakland Raiders | 130 |
| Seattle Seahawks | 134 |
| Denver Broncos | 137 |
| San Diego Chargers | 140 |
| Kansas City Chiefs | 143 |

Raiders still rule the roost, but Holmgren's Seahawks are coming.


KAREN LEVY/ALLSPORT; TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT (TROPHY)

# Philadelphia EAGLES

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **9** |
| Magical Donovan McNabb did it all last season. | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **5** |
| The big question: Can Duce Staley return to form? | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **5** |
| Opposing cornerbacks can rest easy at night. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **7** |
| No wonder it's so hard to get to McNabb. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **7** |
| Simon and Douglas are a QB's worst nightmare. | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **6** |
| Few backers are better than Jeremiah Trotter. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **7** |
| These guys are a hit, and they're ball hawks, too. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **7** |
| David Akers had Philly alive and kicking last year. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **7** |
| In a May shakeup, Reid assumed more power. | |
| **OVERALL:** | **7.5** |
| The future belongs to the Eagles. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**1st in NFC East**

## EAGLES 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Andy Reid (17-17 with Philadelphia)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Donovan McNabb | 330-569, 3,365 yds, 21 TDs |
| RB | Duce Staley | 79 car, 344 yds, 1 TD |
| FB | Cecil Martin | 13 car, 77 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Chad Lewis | 69 rec, 735 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | Freddie Mitchell (R) | 77 rec, 1,494 yds, 9 TDs* |
| WR | James Thrash (WAS) | 50 rec, 653 yds, 2 TDs |
| LT | Tra Thomas | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | John Welbourn | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Bubba Miller | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Jermane Mayberry | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Jon Runyan | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Brandon Whiting | 34 tackles, 3.5 sacks |
| DT | Corey Simon | 51 tackles, 9.5 sacks |
| DT | Hollis Thomas | 60 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DE | Hugh Douglas | 55 tackles, 15 sacks |
| LB | Barry Gardner | 56 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Jeremiah Trotter | 120 tackles, 3 sacks |
| LB | Carlos Emmons | 78 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Troy Vincent | 77 tackles, 5 INTs |
| CB | Bobby Taylor | 46 tackles, 3 INTs |
| SS | Damon Moore | 66 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Brian Dawkins | 71 tackles, 4 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | David Akers | 34-36 XPs, 29-33 FGs |
| P | Sean Landeta | 86 punts, 42.3 avg |
| KR | Brian Mitchell | 47 KR, 23.9 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | Brian Mitchell | 32 PR, 10.5 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Tommy Brasher, DL; Juan Castillo, OL; Brad Childress, QBs; David Culley, WRs; Rod Dowhower, offensive coordinator; Leslie Frazier, DBs; John Harbaugh, special teams; Jim Johnson, defensive coordinator; Tom Melvin, offensive asst.; Ron Rivera, LBs; Pat Shurmur, TEs/OL; Steve Spagnuolo, DBs; Ted Williams, RBs; Mike Wolf, strength and conditioning

# Can McNabb to Mitchell become Super combo?

By Charean Williams

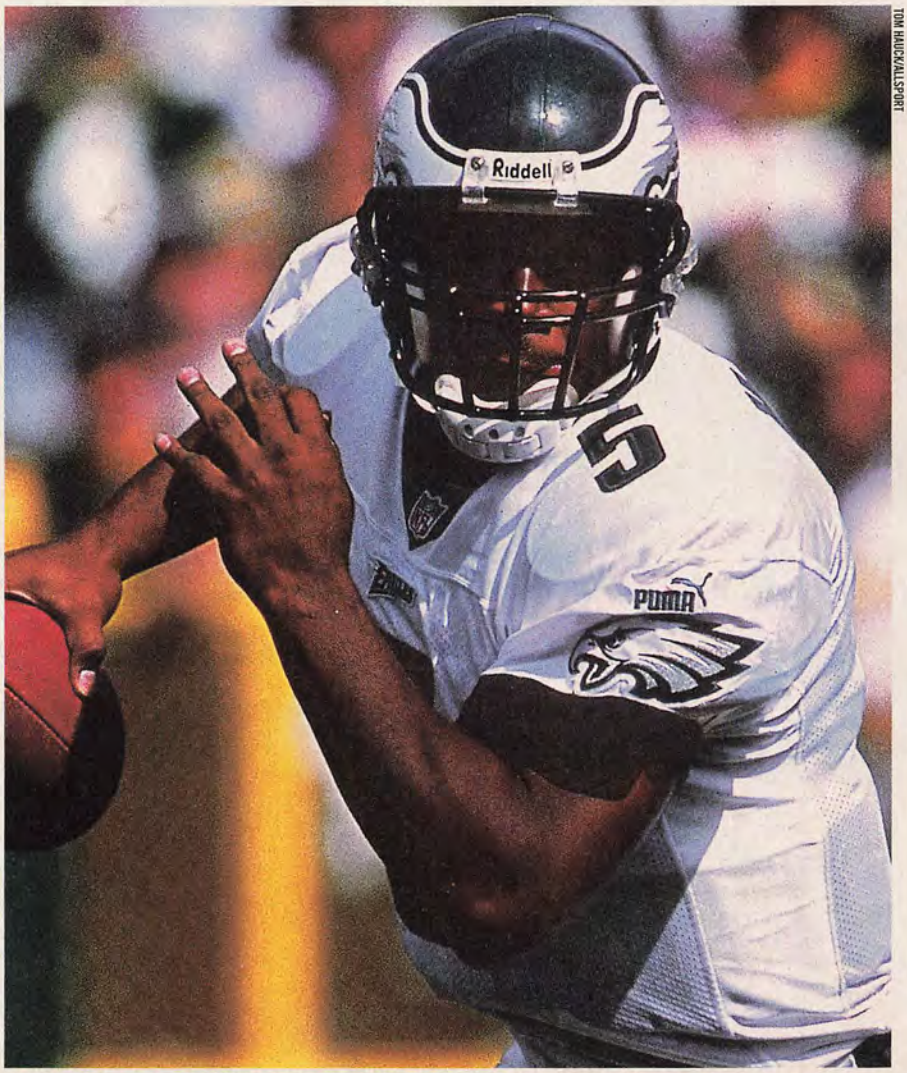
The Eagles began last season as a young team in search of an identity. This year they are no longer upstarts. They can't be called long shots. The Eagles are now a team playing for that ever-elusive Super Bowl title.

Philadelphia, once shunned by free agents, is now a choice destination. The team opened its new $37 million practice and office complex during the offseason. And owner Jeff Lurie opened his checkbook for new talent.

The Eagles enticed receiver James Thrash and defensive end Ndukwe Kalu, free agents from Washington, with $1.2 million signing bonuses after giving offensive tackle Jon Runyan a $30.5 million deal to leave Tennessee last year.

Philadelphia, 8-24 in 1998 and '99 combined, went 11-5 last season and beat Tampa Bay 21-3 in a wild-card game before bowing out in a 20-10 loss to the New York Giants. With all but two starters returning, the Eagles are expected to be mature and focused.

"I think they're the best team in the




TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

*McNabb is responsible for turning Philadelphia's boo birds into screaming supporters.*

NFC East," Redskins coach Marty Schottenheimer says.

Says Andy Reid, the Eagles' third-year head coach, "I guess in comparison to [last year], the expectations are higher. I think you still have to take the same approach that you did last year. That was kind of a one-game-at-a-time approach."

**Quarterbacks** Donovan McNabb's 77.8 passer rating ranked only 18th in the NFL, but the Philly quarterback defined Most Valuable Player. Without him, the Eagles aren't much better than they were in 1999 when they finished 5-11. With him, they made the playoffs.

McNabb, 24, accounted for 75% of the team's offense last season, with 3,365 yards passing and 629 rushing. He threw 21 TDs and ran for another six. He is tough, athletic, hard-working and makes good decisions, which is why he has turned Eagles fans' boos on draft day into cheers on most Sundays.

Koy Detmer, who started six games in his first three seasons, attempted only one pass last year, while former Notre Dame star Ron Powlus still is trying to grasp the West Coast offense.

**Running Backs** The Eagles learned two things about their running game last season: Duce Staley is special, and a team can never have too many good running backs. Staley was providing 70% of the team's offense, including 201 yards rushing against the Cowboys in the season opener, when he was lost for the season with a foot injury on Oct. 1. Staley, who had pins inserted in his left foot, is on schedule in his rehabilitation, according to Reid.

Even if Staley returns to form in time for the season opener—he sat out minicamp—Philadelphia wants to make sure he doesn't wear down at the end of the season as he appeared to do in 1998 and '99.

The Eagles want a more reliable backup than the running-back-by-committee system they were forced to use after Staley's injury. Reid delivered an off-season challenge to Thomas Hamner, the team's sixth-round pick last year who spent most of 2000 on the practice squad.

Cecil Martin, who inherited the starting fullback job when Kevin Turner was injured midway through the '99 season, has refused to relinquish it. Martin is a solid blocker with good hands, but it was his work ethic that first got him noticed.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Philadelphia must replace last year's two starting wide receivers, Charles Johnson and Torrance Small, who both were released. The Eagles think they have upgraded one slot by signing Thrash, who was the Redskins' leading wideout last season with 50 catches for 653 yards. Still, Thrash is not the coveted lead receiver the Eagles have sought since Irving Fryar left.

## 2001 SCHEDULE
All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | ST. LOUIS | 4:15 |
| Sept. 16 | at Tampa Bay | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Seattle | 4:15 |
| Sept. 30 | DALLAS | 8:30 |
| Oct. 7 | ARIZONA | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 22 | at New York Giants | 9:00 |
| Oct. 28 | Oakland | 4:15 |
| Nov. 4 | at Arizona | 4:05 |
| Nov. 11 | Minnesota | 4:15 |
| Nov. 18 | at Dallas | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| Nov. 29 | at Kansas City | 8:30 |
| Dec. 9 | San Diego | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Washington | 1:00 |
| Dec. 22 | at San Francisco | 4:00 |
| Dec. 30 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 4:05 |

VETERANS STADIUM (65,352)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
11-5, 2nd in NFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Dallas | W, 41-14 |
| Sept. 10 | NEW YORK GIANTS | L, 18-33 |
| Sept. 17 | at Green Bay | L, 3-6 |
| Sept. 24 | at New Orleans | W, 21-7 |
| Oct. 1 | ATLANTA | W, 38-10 |
| Oct. 8 | WASHINGTON | L, 14-17 |
| Oct. 15 | at Arizona | W, 33-14 |
| Oct. 22 | CHICAGO | W, 13-9 |
| Oct. 29 | at New York | L, 7-24 |
| Nov. 5 | DALLAS | W, 16-13 |
| Nov. 12 | at Pittsburgh | W, 26-23 |
| Nov. 19 | ARIZONA | W, 34-9 |
| Nov. 26 | at Washington | W, 23-20 |
| Dec. 3 | TENNESSEE | L, 13-15 |
| Dec. 10 | at Cleveland | W, 35-24 |
| Dec. 24 | CINCINNATI | W, 16-7 |
| Dec. 31 | TAMPA BAY* | W, 21-3 |
| Jan. 7 | at New York Giants# | L, 10-20 |

* NFC Wild Card; # NFC Divisional Playoff

## 2000 EAGLES TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 312.9 (17) | 117.6 (15) | 195.3 (20) | 21.9 (12) | 13 (17t) | 21 (12t) | 4.7 (4t) | 10.2 (29) | 45 (22) | 295 (17) | 40.2 (12t) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 301.3 (10t) | 114.4 (20t) | 186.9 (7) | 15.3 (4) | 10 (10t) | 11 (2t) | 4.0 (11t) | 10.4 (2t) | 49 (6) | 19 (11t) | 2 (13t) |

## 2001 EAGLES PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | Detmer, Koy | 6'1" | 195 | 28 | 5 | Colorado |
| 5 | McNabb, Donovan | 6'2" | 226 | 24 | 3 | Syracuse |
| 11 | Powlus, Ron | 6'1" | 225 | 27 | 2 | Notre Dame |
| 12 | Feeley, A.J. | 6'3" | 217 | 23 | R | Oregon |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24 | Autry, Darnell | 5'10" | 210 | 25 | 3 | Northwestern |
| 28 | Buckhalter, Correll | 6'0" | 222 | 22 | R | Nebraska |
| 33 | Hamner, Thomas | 6'0" | 197 | 25 | 1 | Minnesota |
| 38 | Martin, Cecil (FB) | 6'0" | 235 | 26 | 3 | Wisconsin |
| 30 | Mitchell, Brian | 5'10" | 221 | 33 | 12 | La.-Lafayette |
| 37 | Ochs, Brennan (FB) | 6'0" | 230 | 23 | R | USC |
| 36 | Pritchett, Stanley | 6'1" | 240 | 27 | 6 | South Carolina |
| 22 | Staley, Duce | 5'11" | 220 | 26 | 5 | South Carolina |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 88 | Bartrum, Mike (TE-LS) | 6'4" | 245 | 31 | 8 | Marshall |
| 85 | Brown, Na | 6'0" | 196 | 24 | 3 | North Carolina |
| 82 | Douglas, Dameane | 6'0" | 195 | 25 | 3 | California |
| 19 | Keys, Scott | 6'1" | 196 | 23 | R | S.F. Austin |
| 89 | Lewis, Chad (TE) | 6'6" | 252 | 29 | 4 | BYU |
| 17 | Long, Mel | 6'1" | 187 | 23 | R | Toledo |
| 9 | McCready, Eric | 6'3" | 214 | 23 | R | Colorado |
| 84 | Mitchell, Freddie | 5'11" | 184 | 22 | R | UCLA |
| 18 | Mitchell, Kenny | 6'2" | 211 | 24 | R | Arizona State |
| 48 | Stewart, Tony (TE) | 6'5" | 255 | 23 | R | Penn State |
| 87 | Pinkston, Todd | 6'2" | 170 | 24 | 2 | Southern Miss |
| 86 | Scott, Gari | 6'0" | 191 | 23 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 80 | Thrash, James | 6'0" | 200 | 26 | 5 | MO Southern St. |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 74 | Brzezinski, Doug (G) | 6'4" | 305 | 25 | 3 | Boston College |
| 63 | Fraley, Hank (G) | 6'2" | 300 | 23 | 2 | Robert Morris |
| 71 | Mayberry, Jermane (T) | 6'4" | 325 | 28 | 6 | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 65 | Miller, Bubba (C) | 6'1" | 305 | 28 | 6 | Tennessee |
| 64 | Romero, John (C) | 6'2" | 315 | 24 | R | California |
| 69 | Runyan, Jon (T) | 6'7" | 330 | 27 | 6 | Michigan |
| 67 | Schau, Ryan (G) | 6'6" | 300 | 25 | 3 | Illinois |
| 73 | Thomas, Tarlos (T) | 6'6" | 349 | 24 | R | Florida State |
| 72 | Thomas, Tra (T) | 6'7" | 349 | 26 | 4 | Florida State |
| 76 | Welbourn, John (T) | 6'5" | 318 | 25 | 3 | California |
| 66 | Williams, Bobbie (T) | 6'3" | 320 | 24 | 2 | Arkansas |
| | Wong, Joe (T) | 6'6" | 315 | 25 | 1 | BYU |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 77 | Burgess, Derrick (E) | 6'2" | 266 | 22 | R | Mississippi |
| 93 | Davis, Pernell (T) | 6'2" | 320 | 25 | 2 | UAB |
| 53 | Douglas, Hugh (E) | 6'2" | 280 | 30 | 7 | Central St. (Ohio) |
| 96 | Grasmanis, Paul (T) | 6'3" | 298 | 27 | 6 | Notre Dame |
| 91 | Hamiter, Uhuru (E) | 6'4" | 280 | 28 | 4 | Delaware State |
| 79 | Jefferson, Greg (E) | 6'3" | 280 | 30 | 6 | Central Florida |
| 62 | Johnson, Dwight (T) | 6'4" | 285 | 24 | 2 | Baylor |
| 94 | Kalu, Ndukwe (E) | 6'3" | 255 | 26 | 5 | Rice |
| 90 | Simon, Corey (T) | 6'2" | 293 | 24 | 2 | Florida State |
| 78 | Thomas, Hollis (T) | 6'0" | 306 | 27 | 6 | Northern Illinois |
| 97 | Walker, Darwin (T) | 6'3" | 294 | 24 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 98 | Whiting, Brandon (T) | 6'3" | 285 | 25 | 4 | California |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 57 | Bradley, Roylin | 6'1" | 234 | 23 | R | Texas A&M |
| 56 | Caldwell, Mike | 6'2" | 237 | 30 | 9 | Mid. Tenn. St. |
| 55 | Caver, Quinton | 6'4" | 230 | 22 | R | Arkansas |
| 51 | Emmons, Carlos | 6'5" | 250 | 27 | 6 | Arkansas State |
| 52 | Gardner, Barry | 6'0" | 248 | 24 | 3 | Northwestern |
| 50 | Parry, Josh | 6'1" | 234 | 23 | R | San Jose State |
| 58 | Reese, Ike | 6'2" | 222 | 27 | 4 | Michigan State |
| 54 | Trotter, Jeremiah | 6'1" | 261 | 24 | 4 | S.F. Austin |
| 49 | Walker, Derrick | 6'2" | 224 | 23 | R | Iowa State |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 32 | Bostic, Jason | 5'9" | 181 | 25 | 2 | Georgia Tech |
| 26 | Carroll, Terrence | 5'11" | 219 | 23 | R | Oregon State |
| 42 | Cook, Rashard | 5'11" | 197 | 24 | 3 | USC |
| 29 | Crutchfield, Darrel | 6'0" | 177 | 22 | R | Clemson |
| 20 | Dawkins, Brian | 5'11" | 200 | 27 | 6 | Clemson |
| 41 | Hampton, William | 5'10" | 190 | 26 | R | Murray State |
| 31 | Harris, Al | 6'1" | 185 | 26 | 4 | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 27 | Jones, Julian | 5'10" | 192 | 23 | R | Missouri |
| 43 | Moore, Damon | 5'11" | 215 | 24 | 3 | Ohio State |
| 21 | Taylor, Bobby | 6'3" | 216 | 27 | 7 | Notre Dame |
| 23 | Vincent, Troy | 6'1" | 200 | 30 | 10 | Wisconsin |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Akers, David (K) | 5'10" | 200 | 26 | 3 | Louisville |
| 6 | Baker, Jason (P) | 6'0" | 198 | 23 | R | Iowa |
| 7 | Landeta, Sean (P) | 6'0" | 215 | 39 | 17 | Towson State |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Duce Staley's health will go a long way in determining if the Eagles are good or great in 2001.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

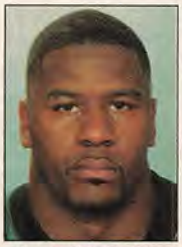
The Eagles have lost nine consecutive games to the Giants, dating to Dec. 1, 1996. Philadelphia gets another chance to break that stronghold on Monday, Oct. 22, at Giants Stadium.

### KEY STAT

The Eagles need their top running back to rush for more than the team-leading 629 yards that quarterback Donovan McNabb racked up in 2000.

### GLUE GUY

LB Jeremiah Trotter, who re-signed with the Eagles during the off-season, has been called the "pulse" by head coach Andy Reid. The Eagles are as emotionally charged as Trotter.



*Jeremiah Trotter*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Freddie Mitchell** WR, UCLA
If he can be a team player, this team might play.

2 **Quinton Caver** LB, Arkansas
He has the desire but needs to learn technique.

3 **Derrick Burgess** DE, Mississippi
Burgess' motor is always running.

4 **Correll Buckhalter** RB, Nebraska
He rushed for 750 yards last year at a big-time school.

5 **Tony Stewart** TE, Penn State
Believe it or not, ex-Nittany Lion must work on blocking.

5 **A.J. Feeley** QB, Oregon
He has limited experience for a new NFL quarterback.

The Eagles' draft didn't wow anyone. But if Freddie Mitchell can get his attitude in check and become the receiver Philadelphia has been seeking since Irving Fryar departed, he could provide one of the key pieces to the Eagles' Super Bowl puzzle. Mitchell's 1,494 yards last season at UCLA are more than the combined yardage of the Eagles' top two receivers in 2000, Chad Lewis and Charles Johnson. At the least, Mitchell will help open up a passing game that was inept at times in 2000 and dropped a notch in the experience category when Johnson was released in April. The Eagles had not used their first pick on a receiver since taking Penn State's Kenny Jackson in 1984. Philly didn't need much help defensively, but both Burgess and Caver are energizers who can add punch right away while learning from the Eagles' bevy of veterans.

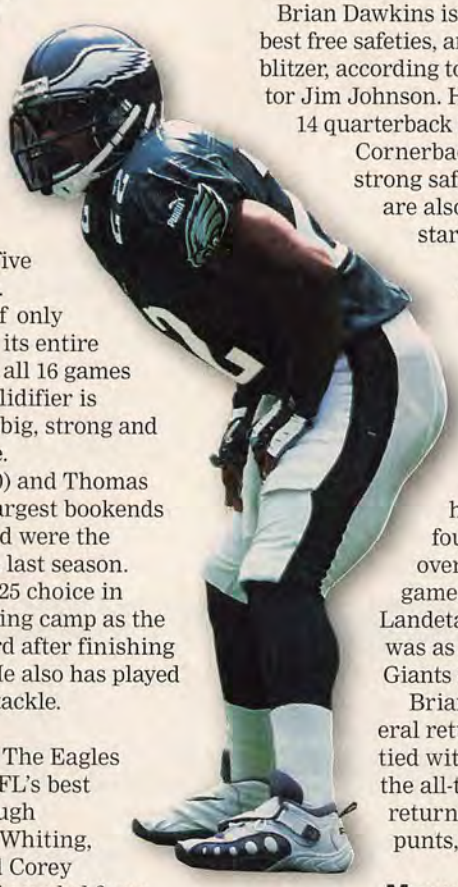
They hope first-round draft pick Freddie Mitchell is. Mitchell is a big-time athlete who also played baseball at UCLA. He can catch just about anything thrown his way, and he'll be the first to tell you about it.

Tight end Chad Lewis was McNabb's go-to receiver last season. Lewis wound up being the Eagles' top pass-catcher and played in his first Pro Bowl.

**Offensive Line** The Eagles finally have the O-line they have long tried to build. From 1991-98, Philadelphia used five first-round draft choices on offensive linemen. Jermane Mayberry and Tra Thomas, both current starters, are the only two of those five still with the team.

Philly was one of only four teams to have its entire O-line together for all 16 games last season. The solidifier is Runyan, who is as big, strong and mean as they come.

Runyan (6'7", 330) and Thomas (6'7", 349) are the largest bookends in team history and were the biggest in the NFL last season. Mayberry, the No. 25 choice in 1996, entered training camp as the starting right guard after finishing the season there. He also has played left guard and left tackle.



*Duce Staley*

**Defensive Line** The Eagles boast one of the NFL's best front fours with Hugh Douglas, Brandon Whiting, Hollis Thomas and Corey Simon. Douglas rebounded from an injury-plagued 1999 season to secure his status as one of the league's most dangerous pass rushers. He's also the locker room sparkplug. Thomas is the team's best run stopper, and Whiting, re-signed this off-season, can play end on first and second downs and tackle at times on passing downs. Kalu, a fierce pass rusher, will spell Whiting at left end on passing downs.

**Linebackers** Middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter is a rising star and the acknowledged leader of the defense. Trotter led the Eagles in tackles for the second consecutive season and earned his first trip to the Pro Bowl. He has instincts and speed, which is why he is always around the ball.

Trotter is flanked by Barry Gardner and Carlos Emmons. Gardner can be a tackling machine. Emmons, signed as a free agent from Pittsburgh before last season, can smother most any tight end in coverage.

**Defensive Backs** Troy Vincent, who is as fundamentally sound as any cornerback in the NFL, has gone to the Pro Bowl the past two seasons. He had five interceptions, 22 passes defensed, a sack, three forced fumbles, a fumble recovery and 77 tackles last season.

Brian Dawkins is one of the game's best free safeties, and the team's best blitzer, according to defensive coordinator Jim Johnson. He had two sacks and 14 quarterback pressures last year.

Cornerback Bobby Taylor and strong safety Damon Moore are also solid secondary starters.

**Special Teams** Kicker David Akers made 12 consecutive field goals to open 2000. Then, in back-to-back weeks in the middle of the season, he had kicks in the fourth quarter and in overtime to tie and win games. Punter Sean Landeta is as reliable as he was as a rookie with the Giants in 1985.

Brian Mitchell holds several return records, and he's tied with Eric Metcalf for the all-time lead with 11 returns for TDs (eight punts, three kickoffs).

**Management** In 1998 the Eagles convinced Tom Modrak, an accomplished talent evaluator, to leave Pittsburgh and become Philly's director of football operations. Modrak drafted McNabb and stabilized the front office, but he asked for an out clause when his name kept popping up regarding vacancies around the league. In early May, Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie fired Modrak, questioning his commitment level. Also fired was Mike McCartney, Philadelphia's director of pro personnel.

In their absence, Reid was named executive VP of football operations. The Eagles are clearly his team now.

*Charean Williams covers the NFL for the* Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

NFL (TROTTER); EZRA SHAW/ALLSPORT

# No guarantee of repeat NFC championship run

The Giants were long shots to make the Super Bowl last season. But then, in a Nov. 22 news conference, Jim Fassel made his famous playoff guarantee. Big Blue's coach talked the talk, and his players walked the walk. The Giants went 7-0 before losing 34-7 to the Baltimore Ravens in Super Bowl XXXV.

Of the six Super Bowl runners-up before the Giants, only one, Pittsburgh, made it back to a conference championship game the following season. Fassel, though, believes the Giants can avoid pitfalls such as what happened in 1998, when his team went 8-8 a year after winning the NFC East.

"Without a doubt, I'm a lot more confident in this team," Fassel says. "My first year, we won the division, so we got a first-place schedule the next year. But we weren't a first-place team.... We're a solid team athletically, and we've got a quarterback now."

Still, Fassel isn't ready to guarantee anything other than hard work. "The expectations will be different. We'll be more of a marked team coming out," he

AL BELLO/ALLSPORT

***LB Barrow (58) and the smothering Giants defense could be even better this season.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Collins has to prove he isn't a one-year wonder. | **7** |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Need more Thunder to go with Lightning. | **7** |
| **RECEIVERS:** Toomer, Hilliard are dynamic duo with soft hands. | **6** |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Like a fine wine, it's gotten better with age. | **7** |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Perhaps the best D-line in the NFL. | **9** |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Armstead, Barrow are run-stuffing ball hawks. | **7** |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Is Will Allen an upgrade over Dave Thomas? | **6** |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** New special teams coach needs to patch leaks. | **5** |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Satisfaction guaranteed. | **8** |
| **OVERALL:** Giants look to finish what they started in 2000. | **7** |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**2nd in NFC East**

## GIANTS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Jim Fassel (39-28-1 with New York)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Kerry Collins | 311-529, 3,610 yds., 22 TDs |
| RB | Tiki Barber | 213 car, 1,006 yds, 8 TDs |
| FB | Greg Comella | 10 car, 45 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Howard Cross | 4 rec, 30 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Ike Hilliard | 55 rec, 787 yds, 8 TDs |
| WR | Amani Toomer | 78 rec, 1,094 yds, 7 TDs |
| LT | Lomas Brown | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Glenn Parker | 13 games, 13 starts |
| C | Dusty Zeigler | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Ron Stone | 15 games, 15 starts |
| RT | Luke Petitgout | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Michael Strahan | 66 tackles, 9.5 sacks |
| DT | Cornelius Griffin | 24 tackles, 5 sacks |
| DT | Keith Hamilton | 57 tackles, 10 sacks |
| DE | Kenny Holmes (TEN) | 73 tackles, 8 sacks |
| LB | Brandon Short | 3 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Micheal Barrow | 94 tackles, 3.5 sacks |
| LB | Jessie Armstead | 102 tackles, 5 sacks |
| CB | Will Allen (R) | 41 tackles, 2 INTs* |
| CB | Jason Sehorn | 73 tackles, 2 INTs |
| SS | Sam Garnes | 63 tackles, 1 INT |
| FS | Shaun Williams | 85 tackles, 3 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Jaret Holmes | 3-3 XPs, 2-2 FGs |
| P | Rodney Williams (R) | 42 punts, 44.4 avg** |
| KR | Ron Dixon | 31 KR, 21.2 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Tiki Barber | 39 PR, 8.6 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats; ** 2000 NFL Europe stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Dave Brazil, def. quality control; John Dunn, strength and conditioning; John Fox, defensive coordinator; Johnnie Lynn, DBs; Denny Marcin, DL; Jim McNally, OL; Tom Olivadotti, LBs; Sean Payton, offensive coordinator; Mike Pope, TEs; Jay Robertson, off. quality control; Jimmy Robinson, WRs; Eric Studesville, RBs; Fred von Appen, special teams

says. "I don't care who you are or where you came from, when you play one of those two teams that were in the Super Bowl, it's different now. I think that's going to challenge us more."

**Quarterbacks** The Giants were criticized for signing Kerry Collins to a four-year, $16.5 million contract before the 1999 season. But Collins has grown up, and the Giants apparently can rest easy for the first time since Phil Simms was their QB.

Collins, whose off-the-field problems in Carolina included too many late nights in bars, finally appears to have gotten it. He was the Giants' catalyst, completing 58.8% of his passes for 3,610 yards and 22 TDs.

The only concern for the Giants is if Collins lets his horrendous Super Bowl performance linger. He tied a Super Bowl record with four interceptions, one of which was returned for a touchdown.

Backup Jason Garrett is like another coach on the sideline. He'll be a good influence on draft pick Jesse Palmer.

**Running Backs** When the Giants used their first-round choice on Ron Dayne last year, Tiki Barber wondered about his future in New York. But Barber had his best season yet, earning a new six-year, $25.2 million contract in the off-season.

Dayne and Barber, a.k.a. Thunder and Lightning, ran up a storm for most of the season. The Giants were averaging 135.5 rushing yards per game after a 9-7 victory against the Redskins on Dec. 3, but in the final three games of the regular season, they had 88 carries for only 247 yards (2.8 ypc).

In his last four regular-season contests, Dayne had only 43 carries for 99 yards. Then he barely got off the bench in the Super Bowl. Dayne worked on improving his conditioning and mental approach during the off-season.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Collins formed a connection with Amani Toomer last season. A second-round pick in 1996, Toomer had his second consecutive 1,000-yard season, becoming the first Giant receiver to accomplish that feat since Homer Jones in 1966-68. Still, more consistency from Toomer wouldn't hurt.

It was anything but a dull season for Toomer. He was benched during the Giants' 19-14 win over the Cowboys on Oct. 15 for committing a penalty and running an incorrect route. He also had a concussion and a twisted left ankle, but he finished strong.

The Giants are still waiting for Ike Hilliard to become an elite receiver. He had 787 yards last season, but the No. 7 pick in 1997 has had an injury-plagued career so far. Though fearless across the middle, Hilliard's 5'11", 195-pound frame has not held up to the pounding.

The Giants, spurned by free agent tight end Rickey Dudley, could use an upgrade at that position. Dan Campbell is a blocker first, Howard Cross is ancient, and New York never got Pete Mitchell involved enough.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 10 | at Denver | 9:00 |
| Sept. 16 | GREEN BAY | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Kansas City | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | NEW ORLEANS | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at St. Louis | 1:00 |
| Oct. 22 | PHILADELPHIA | 9:00 |
| Oct. 28 | at Washington | 8:30 |
| Nov. 4 | DALLAS | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at Arizona | 4:15 |
| Nov. 19 | at Minnesota | 9:00 |
| Nov. 25 | OAKLAND | 4:15 |
| Dec. 2 | Open Date | |
| Dec. 9 | at Dallas | 1:00 |
| Dec. 15 | ARIZONA | 12:30 |
| Dec. 23 | SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Philadelphia | 4:05 |

GIANTS STADIUM (79,469)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

12-4, 1st in NFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | ARIZONA | W 21-16 |
| Sept. 10 | at Philadelphia | W, 33-18 |
| Sept. 17 | at Chicago | W, 14-7 |
| Sept. 24 | WASHINGTON | L, 6-16 |
| Oct. 1 | at Tennessee | L, 14-28 |
| Oct. 8 | at Atlanta | W, 13-6 |
| Oct. 15 | DALLAS | W, 19-14 |
| Oct. 29 | PHILADELPHIA | W, 24-7 |
| Nov. 5 | at Cleveland | W, 24-3 |
| Nov. 12 | ST. LOUIS | L, 24-38 |
| Nov. 19 | DETROIT | L, 21-31 |
| Nov. 26 | at Arizona | W, 31-7 |
| Dec. 3 | at Washington | W, 9-7 |
| Dec. 10 | PITTSBURGH | W, 30-10 |
| Dec. 17 | at Dallas | W, 17-13 |
| Dec. 23 | JACKSONVILLE | W, 28-25 |
| Jan. 7 | PHILADELPHIA# | W, 20-10 |
| Jan. 14 | MINNESOTA§ | W, 41-0 |
| Jan. 28 | Baltimore‡ | L, 7-34 |

# NFC Divisional Playoff; § NFC Championship; ‡Super Bowl XXXV

## 2000 GIANTS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 336.0 (13) | 125.6 (11) | 210.4 (13) | 20.5 (15) | 16 (7t) | 22 (9t) | 4.0 (18t) | 11.6 (14) | 28 (4t) | 310 (11) | 40.2 (12t) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 284.1 (5) | 72.3 (2) | 211.9 (16) | 15.4 (5) | 7 (2t) | 23 (17t) | 3.2 (3) | 11.2 (10t) | 43 (10t) | 20 (9t) | 7 (9) |

## 2001 GIANTS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Collins, Kerry | 6'5" | 245 | 28 | 6 | Penn State |
| 17 | Garrett, Jason | 6'2" | 200 | 35 | 8 | Princeton |
| 12 | Palmer, Jesse | 6'2" | 219 | 22 | R | Florida |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 47 | Bacon, Omar | 6'1" | 209 | 24 | R | Utah |
| 21 | Barber, Tiki | 5'10" | 200 | 26 | 4 | Virginia |
| 44 | Bennett, Sean | 6'1" | 230 | 25 | 2 | Northwestern |
| 34 | Comella, Greg (FB) | 6'1" | 248 | 26 | 3 | Stanford |
| 27 | Dayne, Ron | 5'10" | 253 | 23 | 2 | Wisconsin |
| 33 | Montgomery, Joe | 5'10" | 230 | 25 | 3 | Ohio State |
| 29 | Washington, Damon | 5'11" | 193 | 24 | 1 | Colorado State |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 89 | Campbell, Dan (TE) | 6'5" | 260 | 25 | 3 | Texas A&M |
| 85 | Carter, Jonathan | 5'11" | 173 | 22 | R | Troy State |
| 87 | Cross, Howard (TE) | 6'5" | 270 | 33 | 13 | Alabama |
| 82 | Davis, Thabiti | 6'2" | 205 | 26 | 2 | Wake Forest |
| 86 | Dixon, Ron | 6'0" | 190 | 25 | 2 | Lambuth |
| 88 | Hilliard, Ike | 5'11" | 195 | 25 | 5 | Florida |
| 84 | Jurevicius, Joe | 6'5" | 230 | 26 | 4 | Penn State |
| 81 | Toomer, Amani | 6'3" | 208 | 26 | 6 | Michigan |
| 19 | Tucker, Anthony | 6'0" | 190 | 25 | R | Fresno State |
| 49 | Young, Adam (TE) | 6'4" | 265 | 24 | R | Dartmouth |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 67 | Bober, Chris (T) | 6'5" | 305 | 24 | 2 | Nebraska-Omaha |
| 76 | Brown, Lomas (T) | 6'4" | 280 | 38 | 17 | Florida |
| 69 | Engler, Derek (C) | 6'5" | 300 | 27 | 5 | Wisconsin |
| 63 | Goff, Jim (T) | 6'4" | 300 | 23 | R | Lafayette |
| 61 | Kiernan, Scott (G) | 6'3" | 305 | 27 | R | Syracuse |
| 62 | Parker, Glenn (T) | 6'5" | 312 | 35 | 12 | Arizona |
| 77 | Petitgout, Luke (T) | 6'6" | 310 | 25 | 3 | Notre Dame |
| 78 | Rosenthal, Mike (G) | 6'7" | 315 | 24 | 3 | Notre Dame |
| 65 | Stone, Ron (T) | 6'5" | 320 | 30 | 9 | Boston College |
| 66 | Whittle, Jason (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 26 | 3 | SW Missouri St. |
| 52 | Zeigler, Dusty (C) | 6'5" | 305 | 27 | 6 | Notre Dame |
| 74 | Ziemann, Chris (T) | 6'7" | 315 | 24 | 2 | Michigan |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Ellis, Lavel (E) | 6'4" | 275 | 24 | 1 | Kent State |
| 97 | Griffin, Cornelius (T) | 6'3" | 300 | 24 | 2 | Alabama |
| 93 | Hale, Ryan (T) | 6'4" | 300 | 26 | 3 | Arkansas |
| 75 | Hamilton, Keith (T) | 6'6" | 295 | 30 | 10 | Pittsburgh |
| 90 | Holmes, Kenny (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 27 | 5 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 99 | Kolodziej, Ross (T) | 6'2" | 287 | 22 | R | Wisconsin |
| 79 | Parker, Jeremiah (E) | 6'5" | 250 | 23 | 2 | California |
| 96 | Scott, Cedric (E) | 6'5" | 274 | 23 | R | Southern Miss |
| 92 | Strahan, Michael (E) | 6'5" | 275 | 29 | 9 | Texas Southern |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 98 | Armstead, Jessie | 6'1" | 240 | 30 | 9 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 58 | Barrow, Micheal | 6'2" | 240 | 31 | 9 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 90 | Golden, Jack | 6'1" | 240 | 24 | 2 | Oklahoma St. |
| 55 | Jones, Dhani | 6'1" | 240 | 23 | 1 | Michigan |
| 59 | Lewis, Kevin | 6'1" | 230 | 22 | 2 | Duke |
| 51 | Monty, Pete | 6'2" | 250 | 27 | 5 | Wisconsin |
| 91 | Phillips, Jerry | 6'0" | 185 | 23 | R | Tulane |
| 53 | Short, Brandon | 6'3" | 255 | 24 | 2 | Penn State |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 | Allen, Will | 5'10" | 192 | 22 | R | Syracuse |
| 22 | Brown, Ralph | 5'10" | 185 | 22 | 1 | Nebraska |
| 20 | Garnes, Sam | 6'3" | 225 | 27 | 5 | Cincinnati |
| 26 | McDaniel, Emmanuel | 5'9" | 180 | 29 | 6 | East Carolina |
| 24 | Peterson, Will | 6'0" | 197 | 21 | R | Western Illinois |
| 31 | Sehorn, Jason | 6'2" | 215 | 30 | 8 | USC |
| 28 | Stephens, Reggie | 5'9" | 200 | 26 | 2 | Rutgers |
| 23 | Stoutmire, Omar | 5'11" | 198 | 27 | 5 | Fresno State |
| 41 | Thomas, Dave | 6'3" | 218 | 33 | 9 | Tennessee |
| 37 | West, Lyle | 6'0" | 215 | 24 | 3 | San Jose State |
| 36 | Williams, Shaun | 6'2" | 215 | 24 | 4 | UCLA |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 19 | Holmes, Jaret (K) | 6'0" | 203 | 25 | 3 | Auburn |
| 2 | Markham, John (K) | 6'0" | 212 | 22 | R | Vanderbilt |
| | Williams, Rodney (P) | 6'0" | 178 | 24 | 1 | Georgia Tech |

**Offensive Line** Collins' blindside is safe so long as tackle Lomas Brown and guard Glenn Parker can hold off Father Time. Brown is 38 and Parker 35.

Right guard Ron Stone has been the Giants' most consistent lineman the past few seasons; last year he earned his first Pro Bowl invite. Stone, 30, was key to the Giants' 11th-ranked rushing attack. In the last year of his contract, however, the Giants might have to start grooming a replacement.

Center Dusty Zeigler and tackle Luke Pettigout hold their own.

**Defensive Line** The Giants, who had a respectable 43 sacks last year, got better in the off-season by replacing end Cedric Jones with Kenny Holmes. The Giants enticed Holmes from the Tennessee Titans with a five-year, $20 million deal. They waived Jones, who was perceived as a bust.

Holmes, 27, with 73 tackles and eight sacks, outplayed highly-acclaimed teammate Jevon Kearse last season. He will make life easier for Michael Strahan, who may face fewer double teams playing opposite so fierce a pass rusher.

Strahan is among the league's elite defensive ends when healthy and motivated. He had an NFL-leading 29 sacks in 1997 and '98 combined, but has not hit double digits in sacks since end Chad Bratzke left for the Colts in 1999.

Cornelius Griffin, whose spy role handcuffed Eagles QB Donovan McNabb in the playoffs, is an upgrade over Christian Peter at left tackle. Griffin joins Keith Hamilton, a disruptive trench force.

*Kerry Collins*

**Linebackers** Outside linebacker Jessie Armstead convinced good friend and former University of Miami teammate Micheal Barrow to sign with the Giants before last season, and the reunion was a match made in heaven. Armstead and Barrow have speed and instincts; Armstead is the fluid pass rusher and coverage backer, Barrow the hard-headed run-stuffer.

The Giants' other outside linebacker plays only on running downs. That could be Brandon Short, a fourth-round pick in 2000, or Dhani Jones, who spent his rookie season on injured reserve with a torn ACL.

**Defensive Backs** The Giants opted to re-sign Jason Sehorn rather than go after Ronde Barber, Tiki's twin brother. Sehorn, who inked a six-year, $36 million deal, was a rising star in 1997. But he tore a ligament in his right knee in a 1998 exhibition game and hasn't been the same since. Still, 2000 was his best season since '97. One of two drafted Wills—Allen or Peterson—will start opposite Sehorn. Look for opponents to try picking on either rookie.

Hard-hitting free safety Shaun Williams is close to becoming one of the elite players at his position, and the Giants have no complaints with strong safety Sam Garnes.

**Special Teams** Late in his rookie year Ron Dixon became a dangerous kick returner. He took one back for a touchdown against the Eagles in the playoffs and another versus the Ravens in the Super Bowl.

Fassel shook up the cover units after his special teams fell apart in a Nov. 19 loss to the Lions. Then, in the off-season, the Giants hired Fassell's buddy Fred von Appen to replace departed special teams coach Larry MacDuff.

Punter Brad Maynard signed with the Bears, so New York grabbed Rodney Williams, an NFL Europe vet who has twice been cut in NFL training camps.

Kicker Brad Daluiso struggled after knee surgery and could be replaced by Jaret Holmes or John Markham.

**Management** Fassel's guarantee was a stroke of genius last season. The Jints not only made the playoffs, as he promised, but also won the NFC. General manager Ernie Accorsi, one of the most respected talent evaluators in the league, did his part in the off-season by acquiring Kenny Holmes and re-signing Barber and Sehorn.

*—Charean Williams*

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

The Giants' front seven was good. Free-agent DE Kenny Holmes makes it great.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Big Blue opens Denver's 76,125-seat Invesco Field on Sept. 10. It's the first Monday Night game of 2001, one of three Monday appearances for the defending NFC champs.

### KEY STAT

The Giants were 12-0 in the 2000 regular season when they outrushed their opponent and 0-4 when they didn't.

### GLUE GUY

Jessie Armstead is the team's unquestioned leader in the locker room, the player from whom every other Giant takes his cue.

*Kenny Holmes*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Will Allen | CB, Syracuse<br>Flashed lightning speed in 4.39 time in 40 at the combine. |
| 3 | William Peterson | CB, Western Illinois<br>He's talented, but doesn't have great off-the-field rep. |
| 4 | Cedric Scott | DE, Southern Miss<br>He's an enigma wrapped in a big-time player's body. |
| 4 | Jesse Palmer | QB, Florida<br>Steve Spurrier has not produced great pro QBs. |
| 5 | John Markham | K, Vanderbilt<br>He'll compete with Jaret Holmes for the starting job. |
| 5 | Jonathan Carter | WR, Troy State<br>He has great speed, but will need some work. |
| 7 | Ross Kolodziej | DT, Wisconsin<br>Weight man might need to lose some bulk. |

**B⁻** The Giants didn't have many urgent needs, and they hope they have filled their one shaky area by drafting two hot cornerback prospects. Big Blue traded up in the first round to nab Syracuse's Will Allen, who can fly all over the field and also return kicks if needed. Peterson, one of just a handful of small-school players taken in this year's draft, had transferred from Michigan to Western Illinois following some off-the-field problems. Jesse Palmer, who had an up-and-down career at Florida, could be New York's future quarterback if he sticks around for a while. As for DE Cedric Scott, WR Jon Carter and DT Ross Kolodziej, each has potential.

NFL (HOLMES) ROB BROWN/SPORTPICS

# Washington REDSKINS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | George has never led a team deep into playoffs. | 5 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | Davis does it as well as almost any back. | 8 |
| **RECEIVERS:** | Westbrook's return to health is the key here. | 5 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | The interior is a potential problem. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | Age hasn't caught up to the Redskins yet. | 8 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | Arrington could be the next Lawrence Taylor. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | This is now Champ Bailey's team. | 9 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | Will the Skins kick themselves in the foot again? | 3 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | Can Marty Schottenheimer save the day? | 5 |
| **OVERALL:** | What a difference a year makes. | 5.5 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**3rd in NFC East**

## REDSKINS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Marty Schottenheimer (1st year in Washington)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Jeff George | 113-194, 1,389 yds, 7 TDs |
| RB | Stephen Davis | 332 car, 1,318 yds, 11 TDs |
| FB | Donnell Bennett (KC) | 27 car, 24 yds, 1 TD |
| TE | Stephen Alexander | 47 rec, 510 yds, 2 TDs |
| WR | Michael Westbrook | 9 rec, 103 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Kevin Lockett (KC) | 33 rec, 422 yds, 2 TDs |
| LT | Chris Samuels | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Michael Moore | 5 games, 1 start |
| C | Cory Raymer | DNP—INJURED |
| RG | Derrick Fletcher | 3 games, 2 starts |
| RT | Jon Jansen | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Bruce Smith | 57 tackles, 10 sacks |
| DT | Kenard Lang | 16 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DT | Dan Wilkinson | 20 tackles, 3.5 sacks |
| DE | Marco Coleman | 52 tackles, 12 sacks |
| LB | Shawn Barber | 63 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Kevin Mitchell | 4 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | LaVar Arrington | 52 tackles, 4 sacks |
| CB | Darrell Green | 23 tackles, 3 INTs |
| CB | Champ Bailey | 57 tackles, 5 INTs |
| SS | Sam Shade | 96 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Mark Carrier | 69 tackles, 1 INT |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Brett Conway (NYJ) | 8-8 XPs, 6-6 FGs |
| P | Bryan Barker (JAX) | 76 punts, 42 avg |
| KR | Champ Bailey | 0 KR, 0 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Winston October (CFL) | 79 PR, 11.4 avg, 2 TDs |

New acquisitions in Blue

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Pete Carmichael, off. asst.; Rubin Carter, DL; Jerry Holmes, DBs; Hue Jackson, RBs; Richard Mann, WRs; Greg Manusky, LBs; Joe Pendry, OL; Jimmy Raye, offensive coordinator; Dave Redding, strength and conditioning; Brian Schottenheimer, QBs; Kurt Schottenheimer, defensive coordinator; Tony Sparano, TEs; Mike Stock, special teams; Mike Trgovac, DL

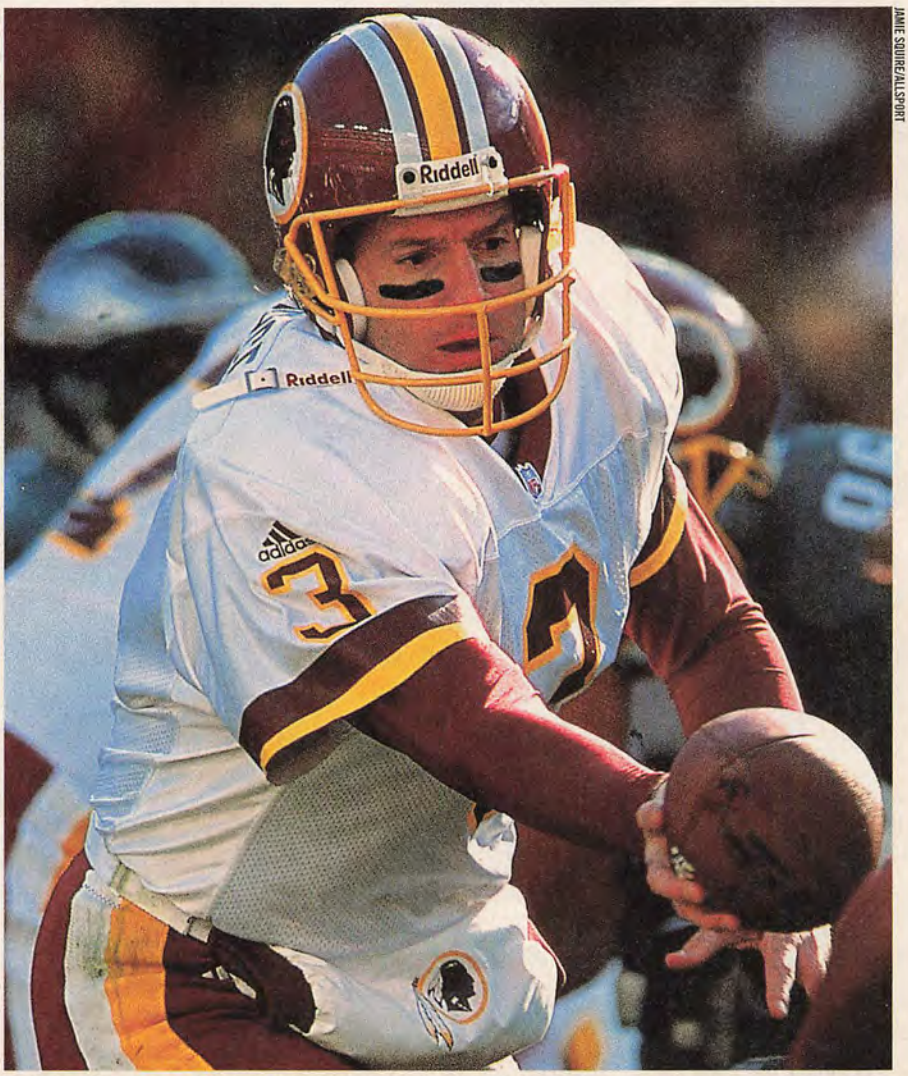
# Schottenheimer hired to clean up a big mess

The Redskins stockpiled the best talent money could buy last year, spending an NFL-record $92.4 million on player salaries. Owner Daniel Snyder's cash, though, bought only misery.

Washington, a popular preseason pick to win Super Bowl XXXV, fired coach Norv Turner before the end of an 8-8 season plagued by injuries and a poor kicking game. This off-season, the Redskins had to cut their losses.

Washington released Larry Centers, Irving Fryar, Tre' Johnson, Keith Sims and Dana Stubblefield, all starters last year, and Andy Heck, who started two seasons ago. Starters Albert Connell, Brad Johnson, Derek Smith and James Thrash left via free agency, as did Ndukwe Kalu, a valuable pass rusher. Deion Sanders, who signed a seven-year, $56 million contract last year, was playing baseball at press time and was expected to be released in June.

Washington's only major off-season acquisition was hiring coach Marty Schottenheimer, who went to the playoffs 11 times in 14 seasons with the




JAMIE SQUIRE/ALLSPORT

*George has a world of talent but only a .377 winning percentage as a starting QB.*

Browns and the Chiefs.

The Redskins still have some big-name players, but they have long been underachievers. Since Joe Gibbs retired after the 1992 season, Washington has been to the playoffs only once.

"I believe we can compete," Schottenheimer says. "There are a lot of unanswered questions, certainly. But most clubs in the league right now are facing similar questions."

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at San Diego | 4:15 |
| Sept. 16 | ARIZONA | 1:00 |
| Sept. 24 | at Green Bay | 9:00 |
| Sept. 30 | KANSAS CITY | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | at New York Giants | 1:00 |
| Oct. 15 | at Dallas | 9:00 |
| Oct. 21 | CAROLINA | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 8:30 |
| Nov. 4 | SEATTLE | 4:15 |
| Nov. 11 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 18 | at Denver | 4:15 |
| Nov. 25 | at Philadelphia | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | DALLAS | 4:15 |
| Dec. 9 | at Arizona | 4:05 |
| Dec. 16 | PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | CHICAGO | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at New Orleans | 8:30 |

FEDEX FIELD (80,116)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

8-8, 3rd in NFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | CAROLINA | W, 20-17 |
| Sept. 10 | at Detroit | L, 10-15 |
| Sept. 18 | DALLAS | L, 21-27 |
| Sept. 24 | at New York Giants | W, 16-6 |
| Oct. 1 | TAMPA BAY | W, 20-17 |
| Oct. 8 | at Philadelphia | W, 17-14 |
| Oct. 15 | BALTIMORE | W, 10-3 |
| Oct. 22 | at Jacksonville | W, 35-16 |
| Oct. 30 | TENNESSEE | L, 21-27 |
| Nov. 5 | at Arizona | L, 15-16 |
| Nov. 20 | at St. Louis | W, 33-20 |
| Nov. 26 | PHILADELPHIA | L, 20-23 |
| Dec. 3 | NEW YORK GIANTS | L, 7-9 |
| Dec. 10 | at Dallas | L, 13-32 |
| Dec. 16 | at Pittsburgh | L, 3-24 |
| Dec. 24 | ARIZONA | W, 20-3 |

**Quarterbacks** When the Redskins signed Jeff George to an $18.25 million contract before last season, everyone knew he wouldn't be Washington's backup for long. When Brad Johnson, who started 11 games last year, left for Tampa Bay this off-season, Schottenheimer inherited George, a quarterback ill-fitted for his offense. George, the top overall pick in 1990, is 46-76 as a starter and has worn out his welcome almost everywhere he's played.

The Redskins likely will try to find a veteran backup since Todd Husak, a sixth-rounder last year from Stanford, and rookie Sage Rosenfels were the only other QBs on the preseason roster.

**Running Backs** Stephen Davis is a 100-yard rusher on demand, well worth the 10-year, $100 million deal he signed in 2000. With 2,723 yards and 28 TDs the past two years, he is only the fifth back in team history to rush for 1,000 yards in back-to-back seasons. Davis can wear down defenses.

The Redskins renounced their rights to Skip Hicks and signed ex-Chief Donnell Bennett. He fills the void of Centers, cut after a disagreement with Schottenheimer over off-season workouts.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** At least according to the stats, the Redskins have lost their top three wideouts from last season. Thrash, who signed a five-year, $8.9 million deal with the Eagles, Connell, who signed a five-year, $14 million deal with the Saints, and Fryar, who was released, combined to catch 130 passes for 1,963 yards and 10 TDs.

Michael Westbrook is expected to return from a torn knee ligament. He has missed 32 games in his six seasons, and has finished two of the last three years on injured reserve. Still, if healthy, he's capable of having his second career 1,000-yard campaign.

Schottenheimer enticed Kevin Lockett from Kansas City and drafted physical Clemson receiver Rod Gardner to compete for the other starting slot. Lockett, whom Schottenheimer drafted in 1997, played for new Redskins offensive coordinator Jimmy Raye in K.C. He can also return kicks.

Gardner's arrival means Derrius Thompson, a former practice squad member, will be the fourth wideout in long-yardage situations.

**Offensive Line** After cutting injury-plagued guards Johnson and Sims, the Redskins had only two guards on their roster for their first minicamp. Michael Moore, a fourth-round draft pick last year, has the size (6'3", 320) to be an NFL starter. He played like a rookie during

## 2000 REDSKINS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 337.3 (10t) | 109.3 (19) | 228.0 (10) | 17.6 (24) | 14 (12t) | 18 (19t) | 3.9 (20t) | 11.4 (15t) | 32 (9) | 307 (14) | 39.4 (14t) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 279.6 (4) | 115.8 (22) | 163.8 (2) | 16.8 (7t) | 9 (6t) | 12 (4) | 4.3 (21t) | 11.4 (15t) | 45 (8) | 17 (13t) | 0 (17t) |

## 2001 REDSKINS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | George, Jeff | 6'4" | 215 | 33 | 11 | Illinois |
| 8 | Husak, Todd | 6'3" | 216 | 23 | 2 | Stanford |
| 18 | Rosenfels, Sage | 6'4" | 221 | 23 | R | Iowa State |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 30 | Bennett, Donnell (FB) | 6'0" | 246 | 28 | 8 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 40 | Cerimele, Mike (FB) | 5'9" | 237 | 23 | R | Penn State |
| 48 | Davis, Stephen | 6'0" | 234 | 27 | 6 | Auburn |
| 43 | Dinkins, Jamaal | 6'0" | 225 | 22 | R | Mississippi St. |
| 47 | Johnson, Bryan | 5'10" | 234 | 23 | 1 | Boise State |
| 39 | Stephens, Stanley | 6'1" | 205 | 24 | R | S. Carolina St. |
| 45 | Watson, Kenny | 6'0" | 208 | 23 | R | Penn State |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 80 | Alexander, Stephen (TE) | 6'4" | 246 | 25 | 4 | Oklahoma |
| 89 | Flemister, Zeron (TE) | 6'4" | 249 | 24 | 2 | Iowa |
| 87 | Gardner, Rod | 6'2" | 216 | 23 | R | Clemson |
| 20 | Goodson, Tyrone | 6'2" | 195 | 27 | 1 | Auburn |
| 17 | Grim, Latef | 6'0" | 190 | 22 | R | Pittsburgh |
| 81 | Lockett, Kevin | 6'0" | 187 | 27 | 5 | Kansas State |
| 19 | McCants, Darnerin | 6'4" | 210 | 24 | R | Delaware St. |
| 49 | Mercer, Ivan (TE) | 6'7" | 245 | 25 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 86 | Rasby, Walter (TE) | 6'3" | 251 | 28 | 8 | Wake Forest |
| 46 | Sigmund, John (TE) | 6'6" | 269 | 23 | R | Wisconsin |
| 84 | Spencer, Willie | 6'2" | 215 | 24 | 1 | Tiffin |
| 13 | Thompson, Derrius | 6'2" | 215 | 24 | 3 | Baylor |
| 82 | Westbrook, Michael | 6'3" | 220 | 29 | 6 | Colorado |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 77 | Albright, Ethan (G) | 6'5" | 278 | 30 | 8 | North Carolina |
| 54 | Brandt, David (C) | 6'4" | 297 | 23 | R | Michigan |
| 51 | Fischer, Mark (C) | 6'3" | 293 | 27 | 4 | Purdue |
| 65 | Fletcher, Derrick (T) | 6'6" | 350 | 25 | 3 | Baylor |
| 61 | Hopkins, Tam (T) | 6'5" | 305 | 23 | R | Ohio State |
| 76 | Jansen, Jon (T) | 6'6" | 309 | 25 | 3 | Michigan |
| 62 | Kalich, Ryan (G) | 6'2" | 297 | 24 | R | Florida |
| 70 | Langley, Trey (T) | 6'5" | 292 | 24 | R | LSU |
| 66 | Moore, Michael (T) | 6'3" | 320 | 24 | 2 | Troy State |
| 52 | Raymer, Cory (C) | 6'2" | 298 | 28 | 6 | Wisconsin |
| 60 | Samuels, Chris (T) | 6'5" | 325 | 24 | 2 | Alabama |
| 73 | Simmons, Terrance (T) | 6'8" | 310 | 25 | 1 | Alabama State |
| 64 | Schwab, Jason (G) | 6'1" | 300 | 24 | R | Nebraska |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 74 | Bryant, Terry (T) | 6'4" | 275 | 23 | R | Clemson |
| 99 | Coleman, Marco (E) | 6'3" | 267 | 31 | 10 | Georgia Tech |
| 91 | Cowsette, Delbert (E) | 6'1" | 274 | 23 | 1 | Maryland |
| 92 | DeLoach, Jerry (T) | 6'2" | 314 | 24 | R | California |
| 75 | Ham, Derrick (E) | 6'4" | 257 | 26 | 2 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 74 | Harrison, Nolan (T) | 6'5" | 289 | 32 | 11 | Indiana |
| 71 | Kelly, Rod (E) | 6'4" | 252 | 22 | R | NE State (OK) |
| 90 | Lang, Kenard (E) | 6'4" | 277 | 26 | 5 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 79 | Monds, Mario (T) | 6'4" | 331 | 24 | R | Cincinnati |
| 78 | Smith, Bruce (E) | 6'4" | 279 | 38 | 17 | Virginia Tech |
| 95 | Wilkinson, Dan (T) | 6'5" | 313 | 28 | 8 | Ohio State |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 57 | Anthony, Cornelius | 6'0" | 226 | 23 | R | Texas A&M |
| 56 | Arrington, LaVar | 6'3" | 250 | 23 | 2 | Penn State |
| 59 | Barber, Shawn | 6'2" | 230 | 26 | 4 | Richmond |
| 53 | Mason, Eddie | 6'0" | 236 | 29 | 5 | North Carolina |
| 55 | Mitchell, Kevin | 6'1" | 254 | 30 | 7 | Syracuse |
| 98 | Morrison, Jake | 6'3" | 219 | 23 | R | McNeese State |
| 97 | Murphy, Chaz | 6'4" | 252 | 24 | R | Kansas |
| 50 | Pierce, Antonio | 6'1" | 230 | 22 | R | Arizona |
| 58 | Sessions, Anthony | 6'0" | 217 | 32 | R | Tennessee |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24 | Bailey, Champ | 6'1" | 184 | 23 | 3 | Georgia |
| 27 | Carrier, Mark | 6'1" | 190 | 33 | 12 | USC |
| 28 | Green, Darrell | 5'8" | 184 | 41 | 19 | Texas A&M–Kings. |
| 25 | Greer, Donovan | 5'10" | 178 | 26 | 5 | Texas A&M |
| 88 | October, Winston | 5'9" | 165 | 25 | 1 | No College |
| 21 | Sanders, Deion | 6'1" | 195 | 34 | 13 | Florida State |
| 29 | Shade, Sam | 6'1" | 201 | 28 | 7 | Alabama |
| | Smoot, Fred | 5'11" | 179 | 22 | R | Mississippi St. |
| 34 | Symonette, Josh | 5'10" | 180 | 23 | 1 | Tennessee Tech |
| 31 | Terrell, David | 6'1" | 188 | 26 | 2 | UTEP |
| 30 | Walls, Greg | 6'1" | 187 | 22 | R | TCU |
| 36 | Whitfield, Eric | 6'0" | 205 | 23 | R | UCLA |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | Barker, Bryan (P) | 6'2" | 200 | 37 | 12 | Santa Clara |
| 1 | Bentley, Scott (K) | 6'0" | 203 | 27 | 2 | Florida State |
| 5 | Conway, Brett (K) | 6'2" | 192 | 26 | 5 | Penn State |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Jeff George has all the tools but has never shown the leadership to take a team to the next level. He is running out of chances.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

The Redskins host the Chiefs on Sept. 30. New Washington coach Marty Schottenheimer was 101-58-1 in 10 seasons in Kansas City.

### KEY STAT

The Redskins were an NFC-worst .667 on field goal attempts last season, costing them at least three games. But Brett Conway is back.

***Brett Conway***

### GLUE GUY

Champ Bailey is ready to inherit the leadership role from Darrell Green, who just might be playing his final NFL season.

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Rod Gardner** WR, Clemson
He's a big, powerful receiver who has a chance to start.

2 **Fred Smoot** CB, Mississippi State
What he lacks in size he makes up for in confidence.

4 **Sage Rosenfels** QB, Iowa State
Likely third-stringer, he must improve his mechanics.

5 **Damerian McCants** WR, Del. St.
He's a project player at this point.

6 **Mario Monds** DT, Cincinnati
First things first: He needs to get into NFL shape.

**B–** After releasing Irving Fryar and allowing Albert Connell and James Thrash to depart via free agency, the Redskins knew they needed a wide receiver in the worst way. They got a good one in Rod Gardner, a 6'2", 217-pound playmaker who caught 124 passes for 1,965 yards and 10 touchdowns his final two seasons at Clemson. Gardner, who bench presses 400 pounds, was the most physical wideout available. He'll block well and use his strength to shed cornerbacks one-on-one. With questions surrounding Cincinnati Reds outfielder Deion Sanders' return to football, cornerback Smoot was another logical selection. Smoot will learn a lot from Darrell Green, an 18-year veteran who still may start ahead of the rookie come September. Quarterback Rosenfels had a great senior year for the Cyclones, and though he's athletic, his mechanics may need to be overhauled.

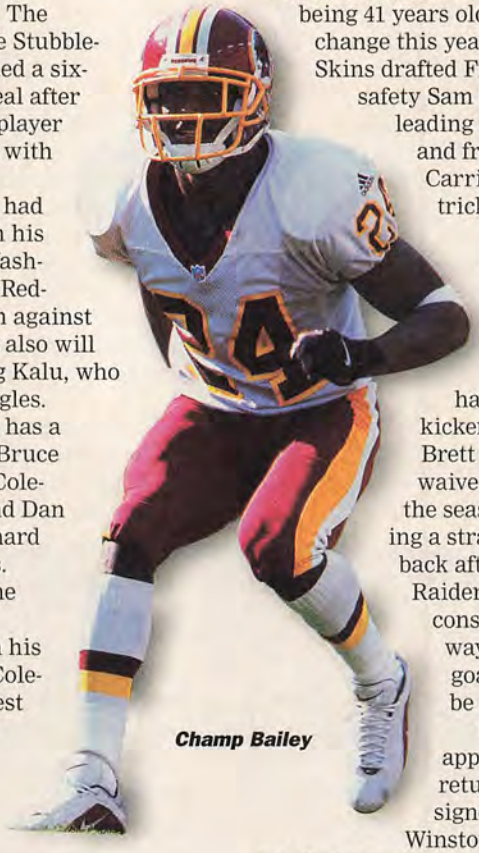
his only start last season. Derrick Fletcher (6'6", 350) is also a giant, but has made only two pro starts.

Mark Fischer, who started every game at center last season after Cory Raymer went down with a knee injury, played every line position except center at Purdue. Fischer has played only center in Washington, but with Raymer's return, he could become a guard. The 293-pound Fischer will have to gain at least 10 pounds.

At least the Redskins can take comfort in their bookend tackles, Chris Samuels and Jon Jansen, who soon could rate as the best in the league.

**Defensive Line** The Redskins cut tackle Stubblefield, who had signed a six-year, $36 million deal after earning defensive player of the year honors with the 49ers in 1997. While Stubblefield had only seven sacks in his three seasons in Washington, he was the Redskins' best lineman against the run. The Skins also will miss the promising Kalu, who signed with the Eagles.

Washington still has a talented line with Bruce Smith and Marco Coleman at the ends and Dan Wilkinson and Kenard Lang at the tackles. Smith, 38, proved he wasn't washed up, making 10 sacks in his 16th NFL season. Coleman, 31, had the best year of his career with 12 sacks and his first Pro Bowl invite.



***Champ Bailey***

**Linebackers** Middle linebacker Derek Smith, who made 88 tackles last season, signed a five-year deal with the 49ers. That leaves special teams standout Kevin Mitchell, who's bigger than Smith but rarely played in the team's base defense last year, making only four tackles. With Mitchell in the middle, the Redskins might be better against the run.

Shawn Barber, who had 63 tackles, goes sideline to sideline. And the Redskins are still trying to figure out how to best use the unique abilities of LaVar Arrington, who has been compared to Lawrence Taylor. Arrington, the No. 2 overall pick last season, wanted to free-lance too often during the preseason and started the year as a backup. But he started 11 games and showed he can get after a quarterback and deliver big blows in the open field.

**Defensive Backs** The Redskins' biggest mistake was signing Sanders. They already had cagey veteran Darrell Green and young gun Champ Bailey, the team's best all-around player and the second coming of Sanders. Bailey earned a Pro Bowl berth by making 57 tackles with a team-best five picks. He also played a few downs at receiver and had one punt return for 65 yards.

Green, one of the best corners in NFL history, has not lost much despite being 41 years old. That may change this year, which is why the Skins drafted Fred Smoot. Strong safety Sam Shade, the team's leading tackler a year ago, and free safety Mark Carrier know all the tricks of the trade.

**Special Teams** The Redskins, 3-3 in games decided by three or fewer points, had five different kickers hit field goals. Brett Conway, who was waived three games into the season after aggravating a strained thigh, is back after stints with the Raiders and Jets. Any consistency from Conway, 6 of 6 on field goals last year, would be a godsend.

Sanders was a disappointment as a punt returner. Washington signed 5'7", 160-pound Winston October to help handle kicks. If October, formerly of the CFL's Montreal Alouettes, struggles come September, either Lockett or Bailey could get the call.

**Management** Owner Snyder wanted Miami's Santana Moss in the draft. That Schottenheimer picked Gardner instead spoke volumes as to who will run this team in 2001. Snyder, who had a cancerous thyroid removed in the spring, spent big and expected bigger from ousted coach Turner. The expectations remain high, but the pressure on Schottenheimer is lower. Of course, so too is the total at the bottom of Washington's payroll.

*—Charean Williams*

NFL (CONWAY); ROB BROWN/SPORTPICS

# Troy has fallen, but war with salary cap goes on

This season, Dallas is paying for its three Super Bowls in the 1990s with $23.4 million in "dead money"—funds committed to 11 players no longer with the team. That leaves the Cowboys with about $44 million of salary-cap room.

Dallas released quarterback Troy Aikman on March 7, declining to pay him a $7 million bonus that would have extended his contract until 2007. Dallas also waived defensive tackle Chad Hennings and offensive tackle Erik Williams to save money.

Although everyone at Valley Ranch refuses to term this a rebuilding season, Emmitt Smith and Darren Woodson are the only players still with the club who played on all three of the Cowboys' 1990s Super Bowl teams.

"Winning Super Bowls is what it's all about," says Dave Campo, in his second season as head coach after 11 years as a Cowboys assistant. "But let's face it, there's going to be some ups and downs with the [salary-cap] system we have in place right now. Obviously, we're not happy having that much dead money,

GREG FIUME/ALLSPORT

***Smith, an 11-year vet, is 1,561 yards from becoming the NFL's all-time leading rusher.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** The Cowboys are paying for Troy Aikman. | **3** |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Emmitt Smith is gaining on the rushing record. | **7** |
| **RECEIVERS:** These guys are weak in the knees. | **6** |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** They're still living large up front. | **7** |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Unit has been run over by a Mack truck. | **4** |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Dexter Coakley better live up to his salary. | **6** |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Where is Deion when you need him? | **5** |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Kicking coach Steve Hoffman is a top assistant. | **7** |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Wanted: General manager. | **5** |
| **OVERALL:** Those three Super Bowl titles seem like ages ago. | **5** |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**4th in NFC East**

## COWBOYS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dave Campo (5-11 with Dallas)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Tony Banks (BAL) | 150-274, 1,578 yds, 8 TDs |
| RB | Emmitt Smith | 294 car, 1,203 yds, 9 TDs |
| FB | Robert Thomas | 15 car, 51 yds, 0 TD |
| TE | David LaFleur | 12 rec, 109 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | Raghib Ismail | 25 rec, 350 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | Joey Galloway | 4 rec, 62 yds, 1 TD |
| LT | Flozell Adams | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Larry Allen | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Mark Stepnoski | 11 games, 11 starts |
| RG | Al Jackson | 2 games, 0 starts |
| RT | Solomon Page | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Greg Ellis | 52 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DT | Brandon Noble | 43 tackles, 1 sack |
| DT | Dimitrius Underwood | 17 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DE | Ebenezer Ekuban | 29 tackles, 6.5 sacks |
| LB | Darren Hambrick | 77 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Dat Nguyen | 48 tackles, 2 INTs |
| LB | Dexter Coakley | 87 tackles, 0 sacks |
| CB | Kareem Larrimore | 13 tackles, 0 INTs |
| CB | Phillippi Sparks | 55 tackles, 5 INTs |
| SS | Darren Woodson | 72 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | George Teague | 43 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Tim Seder | 27-27 XPs, 25-33 FGs |
| P | Micah Knorr | 58 punts, 42.8 avg |
| KR | Jason Tucker | 51 KR, 21.5 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Wane McGarity | 30 PR, 11.8 avg, 2 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Joe Avezzano, special teams; Bill Bates, DBs; Wes Chandler, WRs; George Edwards, LBs; Steve Hoffman, kickers; Hudson Houck, OL; Jim Jeffcoat, DEs; Joe Juraszek, strength and conditioning; Les Miles, TEs; Andre Patterson, DTs; Jack Reilly, offensive coordinator; Clarence Shelmon, RBs; Wade Wilson, QBs; Mike Zimmer, defensive coordinator

but at the same time, we made our run. We can still be competitive, because we still have some good players."

**Quarterbacks** Exit Aikman. Enter Tony Banks. Aikman, 34, opted to become an NFL analyst for Fox after 10 career concussions, four in the past two seasons. Aikman missed five games and parts of three others with head and back injuries last year. He ranked last in the NFC with a 64.3 passer rating—his worst season since his rookie year in 1989, when Dallas was 1-15.

The cash-strapped Cowboys signed Banks to a cap-friendly $500,000 deal for one season. Banks, waived by the Ravens, has fumbled 62 times—including an NFL-record 21 as a rookie—been sacked 185 times and tossed 61 TD passes to 58 INTs in 68 career games.

But he has more experience than Dallas' other quarterbacks combined. Anthony Wright has two NFL starts, and Clint Stoerner has one NFL appearance. The Cowboys see their future in second-round pick Quincy Carter, who will sit at least one year behind Banks.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Detroit | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at Philadelphia | 8:30 |
| Oct. 7 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 15 | WASHINGTON | 9:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Oakland | 4:15 |
| Oct. 28 | ARIZONA | 4:05 |
| Nov. 4 | at New York Giants | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| Nov. 22 | DENVER | 4:05 |
| Dec. 2 | at Washington | 4:15 |
| Dec. 9 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Seattle | 4:15 |
| Dec. 23 | at Arizona | 4:05 |
| Dec. 30 | SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |

TEXAS STADIUM (65,675)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

5-11, 4th in NFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | PHILADELPHIA | L, 14-41 |
| Sept. 10 | at Arizona | L, 31-32 |
| Sept. 18 | at Washington | W, 27-21 |
| Sept. 24 | SAN FRANCISCO | L, 24-41 |
| Sept. 1 | at Carolina | W, 16-13 |
| Oct. 15 | at New York Giants | L, 14-19 |
| Oct. 22 | ARIZONA | W, 48-7 |
| Oct. 29 | JACKSONVILLE | L, 17-23 |
| Nov. 5 | at Philadelphia | L, 13-16 |
| Nov. 12 | CINCINNATI | W, 23-6 |
| Nov. 19 | at Baltimore | L, 0-27 |
| Nov. 23 | MINNESOTA | L, 15-27 |
| Dec. 3 | at Tampa Bay | L, 7-27 |
| Dec. 10 | WASHINGTON | W, 32-13 |
| Dec. 17 | NEW YORK GIANTS | L, 13-17 |
| Dec. 25 | at Tennessee | L, 0-31 |

**Running Backs** Smith has 15,166 career rushing yards, trailing Barry Sanders by 103 for second place in NFL history. At his current pace, Smith will pass Walter Payton's career record (16,726 yards) in 2002. He was as good as ever last season, his 11th in the NFL. His 1,203 yards earned him his ninth Pro Bowl invitation.

The Cowboys threw a lot of money at fullback Robert Thomas to keep him from signing with Chicago. The linebacker-turned-blocker is a favorite of Smith's and a key to the team's steady running game.

Troy Hambrick and Michael Wiley had a combined 30 carries for 116 yards last year, and Dallas signed XFL rushing leader John Avery for depth.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The Cowboys signed Raghib Ismail to a seven-year, $21 million contract in March 1999 and traded two first-round draft choices for Joey Galloway, whom they gave a seven-year, $42 million deal last off-season. Dallas, though, has little to show for it.

Galloway had four grabs for 62 yards and a TD before tearing the ACL in his left knee in the season opener. Ismail, who had 80 catches for 1,097 yards and six TDs in 1999, tore the ACL in his right knee in November. He had 25 grabs for 350 yards before going down. The Cowboys hope their return will reinvigorate the offense.

Dallas lost a step at No. 3 receiver, where free agent Carl Pickens was in line to replace James McKnight, who signed with Miami. Jason Tucker, Wane

## 2000 COWBOYS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 279.7 (25) | 122.1 (12) | 157.6 (28) | 18.4 (23) | 15 (9t) | 14 (25t) | 4.2 (12t) | 10.9 (23) | 35 (13t) | 276 (22) | 35.9 (22) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 333.1 (19) | 164.8 (31) | 168.3 (3) | 22.6 (22) | 17 (25t) | 20 (15) | 4.9 (30t) | 10.4 (2t) | 26 (29t) | 16 (18t) | -14 (28t) |

## 2001 COWBOYS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Banks, Tony | 6'4" | 230 | 28 | 6 | Michigan State |
| 17 | Carter, Quincy | 6'2" | 225 | 23 | R | Georgia |
| 5 | Stoerner, Clint | 6'2" | 210 | 23 | 2 | Arkansas |
| 2 | Wright, Anthony | 6'1" | 195 | 25 | 2 | South Carolina |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | Avery, John | 5'9" | 190 | 25 | 2 | Mississippi |
| 42 | Hambrick, Troy | 6'1" | 235 | 24 | 1 | Savannah State |
| 22 | Smith, Emmitt | 5'9" | 209 | 32 | 12 | Florida |
| 36 | Taylor, Tony | 5'9" | 190 | 23 | R | NW State-La. |
| 44 | Thomas, Robert (FB) | 6'1" | 252 | 26 | 3 | Henderson St. |
| 32 | Wiley, Michael | 5'11" | 189 | 23 | 2 | Ohio State |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 85 | Brazzell, Chris | 6'2" | 193 | 25 | 3 | Angelo State |
| 45 | Collins, Ryan (TE) | 6'6" | 265 | 25 | 2 | St. Thomas |
| 11 | Copeland, Jermaine | 6'1" | 200 | 24 | 1 | Tennessee |
| 84 | Galloway, Joey | 5'11" | 188 | 29 | 6 | Ohio State |
| 88 | Harris, Jackie (TE) | 6'4" | 250 | 33 | 12 | La.-Monroe |
| 16 | Hodge, Damon | 6'1" | 192 | 24 | 2 | Alabama State |
| 49 | Huggins, Johnny (TE) | 6'3" | 245 | 25 | R | Alabama State |
| 81 | Ismail, Raghib | 5'11" | 190 | 31 | 9 | Notre Dame |
| 89 | LaFleur, David (TE) | 6'7" | 272 | 27 | 5 | LSU |
| 82 | Lucky, Mike (TE) | 6'6" | 273 | 25 | 2 | Arizona |
| 83 | McGarity, Wane | 5'8" | 197 | 24 | 3 | Texas |
| 86 | Pickens, Carl | 6'2" | 206 | 31 | 10 | Tennessee |
| 87 | Tucker, Jason | 6'1" | 182 | 25 | 3 | TCU |
| 46 | Whalen, James (TE) | 6'2" | 228 | 23 | 1 | Kentucky |
| 19 | Williams, Martinez | 5'11" | 170 | 24 | R | New Mexico |
| 18 | Yamini, Bashir | 6'3" | 190 | 23 | 2 | Iowa |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 76 | Adams, Flozell (G) | 6'7" | 335 | 26 | 4 | Michigan State |
| 73 | Allen, Larry (G) | 6'3" | 326 | 29 | 8 | Sonoma State |
| 74 | Collins, Dan (G) | 6'4" | 300 | 25 | 1 | Boston College |
| 79 | Dorsey, Char-ron (T) | 6'6" | 347 | 23 | R | Florida State |
| 66 | Fricke, Ben (C) | 6'0" | 295 | 25 | 3 | Houston |
| 78 | Gamble, Jason (C) | 6'3" | 307 | 25 | R | Clemson |
| 61 | Garmon, Kelvin (G) | 6'2" | 329 | 24 | 2 | Baylor |
| 71 | Jackson, Al (G) | 6'3" | 306 | 24 | 2 | LSU |
| 68 | Lehr, Matt (C) | 6'2" | 292 | 22 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 62 | Page, Craig (C) | 6'3" | 303 | 25 | 1 | Georgia Tech |
| 77 | Page, Solomon (T) | 6'4" | 321 | 25 | 3 | West Virginia |
| 53 | Stepnoski, Mark (C) | 6'2" | 265 | 34 | 13 | Pittsburgh |
| 72 | Wagstaff, James (T) | 6'4" | 330 | 23 | R | North Carolina |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 99 | Blade, Willie (T) | 6'3" | 319 | 22 | R | Mississippi St. |
| 70 | Collins, Javier (T) | 6'6" | 314 | 23 | R | Northwestern |
| 96 | Ekuban, Ebenezer (E) | 6'3" | 265 | 25 | 3 | North Carolina |
| 98 | Ellis, Greg (E) | 6'6" | 286 | 26 | 4 | North Carolina |
| 97 | Fields, Aaron (E) | 6'4" | 243 | 25 | 2 | Troy State |
| 60 | Nix, John (T) | 6'1" | 313 | 23 | R | Southern Miss |
| 75 | Noble, Brandon (T) | 6'2" | 285 | 27 | 2 | Penn State |
| 94 | Myers, Michael (T) | 6'2" | 288 | 25 | 4 | Alabama |
| 69 | Shaw, Bryant (E) | 6'3" | 287 | 23 | R | Miss. College |
| 90 | Spellman, Alonzo (E) | 6'4" | 292 | 29 | 9 | Ohio State |
| 64 | Stewart, Daleroy (T) | 6'4" | 309 | 22 | R | Southern Miss |
| 91 | Underwood, Dimitrius (E) | 6'6" | 276 | 24 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 67 | Weatherington, Colston (E) | 6'5" | 274 | 23 | R | C. Missouri St. |
| 92 | White, Chris (E) | 6'3" | 285 | 24 | 2 | Southern |
| 93 | Zellner, Peppi (E) | 6'5" | 257 | 26 | 3 | Fort Valley St. |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 58 | Bowden, Joe | 5'11" | 235 | 31 | 10 | Oklahoma |
| 52 | Coakley, Dexter | 5'10" | 228 | 28 | 5 | Appalachian St. |
| 56 | Grant, Orantes | 6'0" | 225 | 23 | 2 | Georgia |
| 54 | Hambrick, Darren | 6'2" | 227 | 26 | 4 | South Carolina |
| 50 | Johnson, Eddie | 5'10" | 237 | 25 | R | Cincinnati |
| 59 | Nguyen, Dat | 5'11" | 231 | 25 | 3 | Texas A&M |
| 39 | Parmer, Jason | 6'2" | 230 | 24 | R | James Madison |
| 51 | Steele, Markus | 6'3" | 240 | 22 | R | USC |
| 44 | Thomas, Robert | 6'1" | 252 | 26 | 4 | Henderson St. |
| 50 | Tolbert, Brandon | 6'3" | 230 | 26 | 1 | Georgia |
| 57 | Wortham, Barron | 5'11" | 245 | 31 | 8 | UTEP |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24 | Dixon, Tony | 6'1" | 213 | 22 | R | Alabama |
| 27 | Edwards, Mario | 6'0" | 191 | 25 | 2 | Florida State |
| 23 | Goodrich, Dwayne | 5'11" | 198 | 23 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 38 | Hawthorne, Duane | 5'10" | 175 | 25 | 3 | Northern Illinois |
| 40 | Key, Sean | 5'11" | 185 | 24 | 1 | Florida State |
| 41 | Larrimore, Koreem | 5'11" | 190 | 25 | 2 | West Texas A&M |
| 29 | Myers, Greg | 6'1" | 202 | 28 | 6 | Colorado State |
| 43 | Reese, Izell | 6'2" | 190 | 27 | 4 | UAB |
| 30 | Riley, Earl | 6'0" | 208 | 24 | 1 | Washington St. |
| 20 | Sparks, Phillippi | 5'11" | 195 | 32 | 10 | Arizona State |
| 31 | Teague, George | 6'1" | 196 | 30 | 9 | Alabama |
| 25 | Williams, Charlie | 6'0" | 204 | 29 | 7 | Bowling Green |
| 28 | Woodson, Darren | 6'1" | 219 | 32 | 10 | Arizona State |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Biancamano, Francesco (K) | 5'8" | 168 | 25 | R | S. Conn. St. |
| 4 | Knorr, Micah (P) | 6'2" | 193 | 26 | 2 | Utah State |
| 6 | Seder, Tim (K) | 5'9" | 180 | 26 | 2 | Ashland |

McGarity, Damon Hodge and Chris Brazzell are role players, but McGarity is next in line after Pickens.

David LaFleur is the team's blocking tight end, and Jackie Harris is a reliable pass-catcher.

**Offensive Line** The Cowboys waived Williams, who was never the same after a 1994 car accident. Dallas will be younger and perhaps better with Solomon Page, 25, at right tackle. Page started 16 games at right guard last year and has played left guard and right tackle.

Al Jackson, a rookie free agent last year, and Kelvin Garmon, who spent his '99 rookie season rehabbing a fractured right tibia, will compete at right guard.

The left side is secure with guard Larry Allen, who, at 29, remains among the league's top linemen, and tackle Flozell Adams, who has started every game at left tackle the past two seasons. Center Mark Stepnoski, who missed the final five games last year with a sprained MCL in his left knee, is one of the best when healthy.

*Raghib Ismail*

**Defensive Line** The Cowboys have spent three first-round picks and a second-rounder on defensive ends since 1994. Kavika Pittman is with Denver, and Shante Carver played in the XFL. Greg Ellis was having a Pro Bowl season in '99 until fracturing his left tibia and fibula, and Ebenezer Ekuban struggles against the run.

Dallas has a bigger problem at tackle, where Leon Lett left for Denver and Hennings was waived. Dimitrius Underwood showed why the Vikings spent a first-round choice on him two years ago. But during the off-season, Underwood, who has acute bipolar disorder, tried to take his life for the second time in 16 months. Still, the Cowboys expect him to start. Third-round choice Willie Blade has a chance to be the other starting defensive tackle if he can beat out Brandon Noble.

**Linebackers** Dallas gave up a team-record 2,636 yards rushing. The Cowboys missed middle linebacker Randall Godfrey, who signed with Tennessee before last season, so much that it abandoned its policy of not making linebackers rich and gave Dexter Coakley a six-year, $25 million deal.

Dat Nguyen, the third-round pick in '99 who replaced Godfrey, was hurt much of the year. He'll play alongside tackling machine Darren Hambrick, who had yet to sign at press time.

**Defensive Backs** Deion Sanders, Kevin Smith and Ryan McNeil, none of whom are on the roster, all count against the team's cap this season. Dallas tried to invest in the future last year by drafting Dwayne Goodrich, Kareem Larrimore and Mario Edwards, but all were busts as rookies.

The Cowboys filled the gap by talking Phillippi Sparks out of retirement. At press time, Sparks, 32, was considering hanging it up again.

McNeil signed with the Chargers, so Larrimore, who played in eight games last season, entered training camp as a starter.

Free safety George Teague, 30, ended his season with a fractured right foot, and strong safety Darren Woodson, 32, fractured his right forearm last Nov. 19. That prompted Dallas to draft Alabama safety Tony Dixon.

**Special Teams** Tim Seder made 25 of 33 field goals as a rookie, including a midseason slump in which he missed seven of 15 attempts. Micah Knorr finished his rookie season fourth in the NFC with a 42.8-yard average.

Punt returner McGarity can change field position quickly, and Tucker has set a number of team records for kickoff returns the past two years.

**Management** Dallas has been hurt as much by poor drafts since Jimmy Johnson left as it has by salary-cap constraints. Still, owner Jerry Jones refuses to hire a general manager. He hasn't been shy to change coaches, however. Since Jones bought the team in 1989, he has had four head coaches, including Campo, who coached like the rookie head man he was last year. He vows he has learned from his mistakes.

*—Charean Williams*

HARRY HOW/ALLSPORT

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

QB Tony Banks is with his third team in six NFL seasons. He's 25-36, including 5-3 last year in Baltimore before he was replaced by Trent Dilfer.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

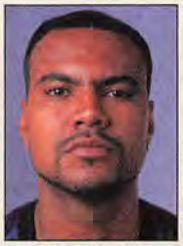
The Cowboys host Washington on Oct. 15 in their only *Monday Night Football* game of the season. Dallas has won a series-high seven consecutive games against the Redskins.

### KEY STAT

The Cowboys gave up a franchise-worst 2,636 rushing yards in 2000.

### GLUE GUY

Emmitt Smith needs only 104 yards to pass Barry Sanders for second place on the NFL's all-time rushing list. He trails leader Walter Payton by 1,560 yards.



***Tony Banks***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School |
|---|---|
| 2 | **Quincy Carter** QB, Georgia<br>Is he the quarterback of the future or just a good athlete? |
| 2 | **Tony Dixon** SS, Alabama<br>A big hitter who could play strong or free safety. |
| 3 | **Willie Blade** DT, Mississippi State<br>He was an underachiever with the Bulldogs. |
| 4 | **Markus Steele** LB, USC<br>A great athlete who's suited for the outside. |
| 5 | **Matt Lehr** C, Virginia Tech<br>College center would be smallish as an NFL guard. |
| 6 | **Daleroy Stewart** DT, Southern Miss<br>Big and fast but needs to work on his technique. |
| 7 | **Colston Weatherington** DE, C. Missouri<br>He's a developmental-type player. |
| 7 | **John Nix** DT, Southern Miss<br>Good run-stopper when he wants to be. |
| 7 | **Char-ron Dorsey** OT, Florida State<br>He'll need to shape up before playing time beckons. |

The Cowboys lost their first-round pick in last year's trade for receiver Joey Galloway. Then they lost their minds on draft day, trading up and down before settling on a quarterback who is more of an athlete than a signal-caller. Carter was projected as a third-rounder at best, but Dallas had him rated second to No. 1 pick Michael Vick among QBs. He will spend at least a year behind Tony Banks. The Cowboys' other eight draft picks will be given every chance to play this season.

# Arizona CARDINALS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Jake the Snake has become Jake the Fake. | 5 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Run, Thomas, run, or Pittman will pass you again. | 3 |
| **RECEIVERS:** Potential to be scary good–if Moore is healthy. | 6 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Now in Tempe cinemas: The Thick Red Line. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** The Cardinals are essentially starting over. | 2 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Too many tackles on the wrong side of scrimmage. | 4 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** It's time for Knight to become a leader. | 6 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** 86 kickoff returns says it all about this team. | 5 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** McGinnis can't be bashed before a full season. | 5 |
| **OVERALL:** Hey, at least a new stadium is on the way. | 4.5 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**5th in NFC East**

## CARDINALS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dave McGinnis (1-8 with Arizona)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Jake Plummer | 270-475, 2,946 yds, 13 TDs |
| RB | Thomas Jones | 112 car, 373 yds, 2 TDs |
| FB | Joel Makovicka | 3 car, 8 yds, 0 TD |
| TE | Terry Hardy | 27 rec, 160 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | David Boston | 71 rec, 1,156 yds, 7 TDs |
| WR | Rob Moore | DNP-INJURED |
| LT | L.J. Shelton | 14 games, 14 starts |
| LG | Pete Kendall (SEA) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Mike Gruttadauria | 8 games, 8 starts |
| RG | Leonard Davis (R) | 12 games, 12 starts* |
| RT | Anthony Clement | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Andre Wadsworth | 13 tackles, 1 sack |
| DT | Russell Davis | 38 tackles, 0.5 sacks |
| DT | Mao Tosi | 43 tackles, 0 sacks |
| DE | Kyle Vanden Bosch (R) | 56 tackles, 5 sacks* |
| LB | Raynoch Thompson | 43 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Ronald McKinnon | 157 tackles, 4 sacks |
| LB | Rob Fredrickson | 99 tackles, 1 sack |
| CB | Michael Stone (R) | 74 tackles, 2 INTs* |
| CB | Tom Knight | 56 tackles, 0 INTs |
| SS | Pat Tillman | 145 tackles, 1 INT |
| FS | Kwamie Lassiter | 94 tackles, 1 INT |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Bill Gramatica (R) | 29-30 XPs, 16-24 FGs* |
| P | Scott Player | 65 punts, 44.2 avg |
| KR | MarTay Jenkins | 82 KR, 26.7 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | David Boston | 0 PR, 0 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Geep Chryst, QBs; Mike Devlin, asst. OL; Jeff FitzGerald, LBs; Joe Greene, DL; Pete Hoener, TEs; Hank Kuhlmann, special teams; Stan Kwan, def. quality control; Larry Marmie, defensive coordinator; Rich Olson, offensive coordinator; Kevin Ramsey, DBs; Bob Rogucki, strength and conditioning; Johnny Roland, RBs; Jerry Sullivan, WRs; George Warhop, OL

# QB Plummer, porous D need to fix many leaks

The Cardinals have a new stadium on the way and a new coach on the sideline. Now all Arizona needs is new results.

The Cardinals were 3-13 last season, the 15th time in the past 16 years they finished under .500. But with the narrow passage of Proposition 302, which will provide the Cardinals with a new stadium in 2004, and the anointing of Dave McGinnis as the team's 37th head coach, the Cardinals at least have the promise of better days ahead.

That does not, however, mean more wins overnight. Arizona has glaring holes on a defense that ranked next to last. The offense has questions at quarterback, where Jake Plummer hasn't lived up to expectations, running back, where Thomas Jones didn't match his hype, and receiver, where Rob Moore missed 2000 with a knee injury.

"I can't sit here and honestly look you in the eye and say, 'Oh, hell yes, we're going to jump back up in there defensively,'" McGinnis says. "I know the strength of our team right now, and the closest chance we have to be very

TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

*Once compared to Joe Montana, Plummer now needs to salvage his slumping career.*

competitive is on the offensive side of the football.

"I think our offense, especially with what [coordinator] Rich Olson is going to bring, makes me feel very confident."

**Quarterbacks** The Cardinals, convinced Plummer was the second coming of Joe Montana, signed their QB to a $29.7 million contract, including a $15 million signing bonus, late in the 1998 season. But Plummer hasn't become a Montana clone. Not even close. Plummer, who led Arizona to nine comeback victories his first two seasons, has thrown 22 TD passes to 45 picks and is 6-19 the past two years. He has forced passes and made bad decisions, and the team has suffered.

But Plummer has a new coordinator in Olson, a new position coach in Geep Chryst—he was Arizona's QBs coach in '98 when the Cardinals went to the playoffs—and at least one more season to prove he's the real deal.

Fortunately for Plummer, veteran backup Dave Brown, 31, is not the future of the Cardinals. Neither is Chris Greisen, a seventh-round draft choice in 1999.

**Running Backs** The Cardinals have been looking for a premier running back since Ottis Anderson's 1,174-yard season in 1984. Arizona has had nine different running backs lead the team in rushing in the 16 seasons since, and only four of those were 1,000-yard years.

Last season Arizona had a 100-yard rusher only once, and in 11 games, including seven consecutive weeks late in the season, the Cardinals did not have 100 yards rushing as a team.

Jones, the No. 7 overall pick in 2000, was given the starting job in the season opener but was outplayed by Michael Pittman, who took over the job for the fifth game. Jones also struggled in his first season as a starter at Virginia. But he had a combined 3,101 yards his last two collegiate seasons, so the Cards are hoping a similar transformation will occur this season.

Pittman is a power back who led the team with 719 yards rushing and 73 receptions. Joel Makovicka is the blocking back.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** A bad thing happened to the Cardinals on their way to the 2000 season opener: Moore blew out his knee in a preseason game. That forced Arizona to scrap its plans for a three-wideout set featuring Moore, Frank Sanders and David Boston, the last of whom matured a ton.

Boston, who has the speed to get deep, had 71 receptions for 1,156 yards and seven touchdowns. If Moore returns to form, the Cardinals again should have a nice group of pass-catchers. Moore is an intermediate receiver, and Sanders, who had 54 catches for 749 yards and six touchdowns in 2000, is a possession receiver with a penchant for making the tough grab.

**Offensive Line** The Cardinals allowed

## 2001 SCHEDULE
All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | Open Date | |
| Sept. 16 | at Washington | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | DENVER | 8:30 |
| Sept. 30 | ATLANTA | 4:05 |
| Oct. 7 | at Philadelphia | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at Chicago | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | Kansas City | 4:00 |
| Oct. 28 | at Dallas | 4:05 |
| Nov. 4 | PHILADELPHIA | 4:05 |
| Nov. 11 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 4:15 |
| Nov. 18 | DETROIT | 4:15 |
| Nov. 25 | at San Diego | 4:15 |
| Dec. 2 | at Oakland | 4:15 |
| Dec. 9 | WASHINGTON | 4:05 |
| Dec. 15 | at New York Giants | 12:30 |
| Dec. 23 | DALLAS | 4:05 |
| Dec. 30 | at Carolina | 1:00 |

SUN DEVIL STADIUM (73,273)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
3-13, 5th in NFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at New York Giants | L, 16-21 |
| Sept. 10 | DALLAS | W, 32-31 |
| Sept. 24 | GREEN BAY | L, 3-29 |
| Oct. 1 | at San Francisco | L, 20-27 |
| Oct. 8 | CLEVELAND | W, 29-21 |
| Oct. 15 | PHILADELPHIA | L, 14-33 |
| Oct. 22 | at Dallas | L, 7-48 |
| Oct. 29 | NEW ORLEANS | L, 10-21 |
| Nov. 5 | WASHINGTON | W, 16-15 |
| Nov. 12 | at Minnesota | L, 14-31 |
| Nov. 19 | at Philadelphia | L, 9-34 |
| Nov. 26 | NEW YORK GIANTS | L, 7-31 |
| Dec. 3 | at Cincinnati | L, 13-24 |
| Dec. 10 | at Jacksonville | L, 10-44 |
| Dec. 17 | BALTIMORE | L, 7-13 |
| Dec. 24 | at Washington | L, 3-20 |

## 2000 CARDINALS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 283.0 (24) | 79.9 (27) | 203.1 (17) | 13.1 (29) | 6 (29t) | 16 (23) | 3.7 (25) | 11.0 (22) | 35 (13t) | 253 (27) | 37.7 (18) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 358.6 (30) | 163.1 (30) | 195.5 (11) | 27.7 (30) | 29 (31) | 19 (13t) | 4.5 (26t) | 11.1 (8t) | 25 (31) | 10 (28t) | -24 (30) |

## 2001 CARDINALS PRESEASON ROSTER

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS** | | | | | | |
| 17 | Brown, Dave | 6'6" | 230 | 31 | 10 | Duke |
| 14 | Greisen, Chris | 6'3" | 227 | 25 | 3 | NW Missouri St. |
| 9 | Keenan, Sean | 6'3" | 208 | 24 | 2 | Williams |
| 16 | Plummer, Jake | 6'2" | 197 | 26 | 5 | Arizona State |
| **RUNNING BACKS** | | | | | | |
| 30 | Crumme, Corey | 5'11" | 226 | 23 | R | Eastern Kentucky |
| 26 | Jones, Thomas | 5'10" | 211 | 23 | 2 | Virginia |
| 34 | Makovicka, Joel (FB) | 5'11" | 247 | 25 | 3 | Nebraska |
| 39 | McKinley, Dennis (FB) | 6'2" | 250 | 24 | 3 | Mississippi St. |
| 32 | Pittman, Michael | 6'0" | 216 | 26 | 4 | Fresno State |
| 31 | Shipp, Marcel | 5'11" | 222 | 23 | R | Massachusetts |
| 21 | Williams, Clarence | 5'9" | 196 | 24 | 1 | Michigan |
| **RECEIVERS** | | | | | | |
| 89 | Boston, David | 6'2" | 211 | 23 | 3 | Ohio State |
| 80 | Hardy, Terry (TE) | 6'4" | 270 | 25 | 4 | Southern Miss |
| 49 | Carson, Elliot (TE) | 6'4" | 246 | 23 | R | Vanderbilt |
| 12 | Cooper, Andre | 6'2" | 210 | 26 | 1 | Florida State |
| 11 | Gilmore, Bryan | 5'11" | 180 | 23 | 1 | Midwestern St. |
| 13 | Jackson, Arnold | 5'8" | 167 | 24 | R | Louisville |
| 19 | Jenkins, MarTay | 6'0" | 201 | 26 | 3 | Nebraska-Omaha |
| 86 | Junkin, Trey (TE) | 6'2" | 247 | 40 | 19 | Louisiana Tech |
| 83 | Mitchell, Tywan | 6'5" | 245 | 25 | 2 | Mankato State |
| 82 | Newcombe, Bobby | 5'10" | 195 | 22 | R | Nebraska |
| 85 | Moore, Rob | 6'3" | 202 | 32 | 11 | Syracuse |
| 87 | Ofahengaue, Tevita (TE) | 6'2" | 253 | 25 | R | BYU |
| 4 | Poole, Nathan | 6'1" | 198 | 24 | R | Marshall |
| 81 | Sanders, Frank | 6'2" | 200 | 28 | 7 | Auburn |
| 84 | Tant, Jay (TE) | 6'3" | 254 | 23 | 2 | Northwestern |
| **OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | | |
| 74 | Afualo, Tait (T) | 6'5" | 308 | 28 | R | East Texas St. |
| 61 | Borum, Jarvis (T) | 6'7" | 332 | 22 | R | N.C. State |
| 62 | Cook, Michael (T) | 6'4" | 317 | 23 | R | Boston College |
| 65 | Clement, Anthony (T) | 6'8" | 351 | 25 | 4 | La.-Lafayette |
| 75 | Davis, Leonard (T) | 6'6" | 370 | 22 | R | Texas |
| 64 | Davidds-Garrido, Norbert (T) | 6'6" | 336 | 29 | 6 | USC |
| 60 | Gruttadauria, Mike (C) | 6'3" | 286 | 28 | 6 | Central Florida |
| 56 | Padgett, Jason (C) | 6'2" | 286 | 22 | R | Louisville |
| 66 | Kendall, Pete (G) | 6'5" | 292 | 28 | 6 | Boston College |
| 68 | Scott, Yusuf (G) | 6'3" | 348 | 24 | 3 | Arizona |
| 70 | Shelton, L.J. (T) | 6'6" | 360 | 25 | 3 | Eastern Mich. |
| 50 | Starkey, Jason (C) | 6'5" | 270 | 24 | 2 | Marshall |
| **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | | |
| 94 | Bell, Marcus (T) | 6'1" | 319 | 22 | R | Memphis |
| 95 | Burke, Tom (E) | 6'3" | 275 | 24 | 3 | Wisconsin |
| 98 | Davis, Russell (T) | 6'4" | 295 | 26 | 3 | North Carolina |
| 79 | Fatafehi, Mario (T) | 6'2" | 295 | 22 | R | Kansas State |
| 72 | Issa, Jabari (T) | 6'5" | 302 | 23 | 2 | Washington |
| 96 | Ottis, Brad (E) | 6'5" | 290 | 29 | 7 | Wayne St. (Neb.) |
| 91 | Swinger, Rashod (T) | 6'2" | 286 | 26 | 3 | Rutgers |
| 92 | Tanner, Barron (T) | 6'3" | 310 | 27 | 5 | Oklahoma |
| 78 | Tosi, Mao (E) | 6'5" | 291 | 24 | 2 | Idaho |
| 93 | Vanden Bosch, Kyle (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 22 | R | Nebraska |
| 90 | Wadsworth, Andre (E) | 6'4" | 272 | 26 | 4 | Florida State |
| 97 | Wakefield, Fred (E) | 6'7" | 287 | 22 | R | Illinois |
| **LINEBACKERS** | | | | | | |
| 58 | Folston, James | 6'3" | 238 | 30 | 8 | La.-Monroe |
| 59 | Fredrickson, Rob | 6'4" | 243 | 30 | 8 | Michigan State |
| 57 | McKinnon, Ronald | 6'0" | 255 | 27 | 6 | North Alabama |
| 51 | Rutledge, Johnny | 6'3" | 243 | 24 | 3 | Florida |
| 54 | Sanyika, Sekou | 6'3" | 240 | 23 | 2 | California |
| 55 | Thompson, Raynoch | 6'3" | 222 | 23 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 53 | Young, Michael | 6'1" | 223 | 23 | R | Illinois |
| 52 | Walz, Zack | 6'4" | 228 | 25 | 4 | Dartmouth |
| 56 | Woods, Lavar | 6'2" | 241 | 23 | R | Iowa |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS** | | | | | | |
| 36 | Barrett, David | 5'9" | 198 | 23 | 2 | Arkansas |
| 28 | Bennett, Tommy | 6'2" | 212 | 28 | 6 | UCLA |
| 25 | Chavous, Corey | 6'0" | 202 | 25 | 4 | Vanderbilt |
| 45 | Hill, Renaldo | 5'11" | 178 | 22 | R | Michigan State |
| 24 | Knight, Tom | 6'0" | 196 | 27 | 5 | Iowa |
| 42 | Lassiter, Kwamie | 6'0" | 203 | 31 | 7 | Kansas |
| 41 | Lucas, Justin | 5'10" | 197 | 25 | 2 | Abilene Christian |
| 23 | Rhinehart, Coby | 5'10" | 187 | 24 | 2 | SMU |
| 44 | Stone, Michael | 5'11" | 191 | 23 | R | Memphis |
| 40 | Tillman, Pat | 5'11" | 199 | 24 | 4 | Arizona State |
| 22 | Wilson, Adrian | 6'2" | 213 | 21 | R | N.C. State |
| 47 | Younger, Jordan | 5'10" | 190 | 23 | 1 | Connecticut |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | | |
| 15 | Blanchard, Cary (K) | 6'2" | 222 | 32 | 10 | Oklahoma St. |
| 7 | Gramatica, Bill (K) | 5'10" | 192 | 23 | R | South Florida |
| 10 | Player, Scott (P) | 6'1" | 217 | 31 | 4 | Florida State |
| 6 | Barrow, Rick (P) | 6'3" | 226 | 23 | R | SW Texas St. |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

As Jake Plummer goes, so go the Cardinals. He has one more year to prove he's their future.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

The Cardinals drew the unfortunate Week 1 bye. They open Sept. 16 against the Redskins, with whom Arizona actually split in 2000.

### KEY STAT

The Cardinals need a consistent 100-yard rusher. Not once in 16 games, but once a week.

### GLUE GUY

With Aeneas Williams now in St. Louis, the Cards need an on- and off-the-field leader. Could it be Rob Fredrickson, a seven-year veteran and rare every-down linebacker in this age of specialization?

***Rob Fredrickson***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Leonard Davis** OL, Texas
At 370 pounds, he can move a tackler or two.

2 **Kyle Vanden Bosch** DE, Nebraska
Looked like a future Hall of Famer in Alamo Bowl.

2 **Michael Stone** CB, Memphis
Postseason workouts catapulted him in pre-draft ratings.

3 **Adrian Wilson** SS, N.C. State
He could have used another year of college ball.

4 **Bill Gramatica** K, South Florida
As strong a leg as brother Martin's, Tampa Bay's kicker.

4 **Marcus Bell** DT, Memphis
Slow by NFL standards but powerful nonetheless.

5 **Mario Fatafehi** DT, Kansas State
A poor combine showing hurt his draft status.

6 **Bobby Newcombe** WR, Nebraska
Former QB didn't have the greatest senior season.

7 **Renaldo Hill** CB, Michigan State
A real long shot to contribute in the near future.

7 **Tevita Ofahengaue** TE, BYU
This year's Mr. Irrelevant is a developmental project.

**B-** With 10 picks, the Cardinals had to have hit on some talent. Davis may have been the best player in the draft and gives Arizona the makings of a top-notch O-line. But Arizona didn't address its most pressing need, defensive tackle, until the fourth round, when all the top talent was gone.

35 sacks (tied for 13th in the NFL), averaged 3.7 yards a carry (25th) and converted only 37.7% of their third downs (18th) last season. They went into the offseason intent on fixing their O-line.

Arizona decided to put all free-agency emphasis on the guard position. It brought in Jeff Hartings, Ross Verba and Pete Kendall for visits before signing Kendall to a five-year, $18 million contract. The No. 21 choice in the 1996 draft, Kendall started 73 consecutive games for the Seahawks. He had shoulder surgery in February, but he should be healthy for training camp.

Next, Arizona drafted mountainous Texas All-America Leonard Davis (6'6", 370), who's surprisingly light on his feet and has a 36-inch wingspan that makes speed rushing around him a task. "He'll play in this league a long, long time, unless he gets hit by a truck," McGinness says. "And it's going to have to be a big truck."

Kendall and Davis will team with center Mike Gruttadauria—he missed eight games last year with a neck injury—and young tackles L.J. Shelton (6'6", 360) and Anthony Clement (6'8", 351) on a line that won't be missing many meals.

### Defensive Line

Remember when the Cardinals had the Cactus Curtain, a budding front four of Simeon Rice, Mark Smith, Eric Swann and Andre Wadsworth? Only Wadsworth remains from that group, and his ongoing knee problems make it hard to count on him. During the off-season, Wadsworth, the No. 3 pick in '98, had a third operation on his right knee.

Smith signed with the Browns and Rice with the Buccaneers. The Cardinals cut tackle Tony McCoy. In the draft, Arizona passed on Florida's Gerard Warren and took second-rounder Kyle Vanden Bosch, whom the Cards hope can bring new energy to the trenches.

### Linebackers

Middle linebacker Ronald McKinnon was the only defensive starter not to miss a game last season. McKinnon, though, is only 6'0", 255, and too often last season was blocked out of plays. Seven-year veteran Rob Fredrickson has the right side under control, while Zack Walz and Raynoch Thompson will compete for the left linebacker position.

### Defensive Backs

Veteran cornerback Aeneas Williams needed only seven more picks to set the team record, but he was dealt to St. Louis on draft day after rejecting a contract offer.

Cornerback Tom Knight, the No. 9 pick in the 1997 draft, has had his development slowed by injuries. He has only two interceptions in four seasons despite 45 starts.

Strong safety Pat Tillman is the toughest tackler in the secondary. Free safety Kwamie Lassiter is a converted cornerback who led the NFC with eight interceptions in '98. In starting the past 32 games at free safety, he has three interceptions.

***Thomas Jones***

### Special Teams

MarTay Jenkins set some dubious NFL records with 82 kickoff returns for 2,186 yards last season, breaking the marks of New Orleans' Tyrone Hughes (70 returns, 1,791 yards in 1996). Jenkins had eight kickoff returns in one game alone.

Punter Scott Player earned his first Pro Bowl invite with a 44.2-yard average. He also landed 17 kicks inside opponents' 20-yard lines.

Kicker Cary Blanchard probably has too weak a leg to hold off draftee Bill Gramatica, a boomer from South Florida who hit a 63-yarder last year.

**Management** McGinnis, who turned down the Chicago Bears' head coaching job two years ago, took over last Oct. 23 when Vince Tobin was fired. McGinnis said he wouldn't become Arizona's permanent head coach unless there were changes in the way the team was run. Owner Bill Bidwill agreed, and McGinnis' title was officially changed from interim to head coach on Dec. 18.

McGinnis has been promised a say in personnel decisions, power Tobin did not have. But general manager Bob Ferguson, who has a year remaining on his contract, is still the man in charge in Arizona.

*—Charean Williams*

NFL (FREDRICKSON); TODD WARSHAW/ALLSPORT

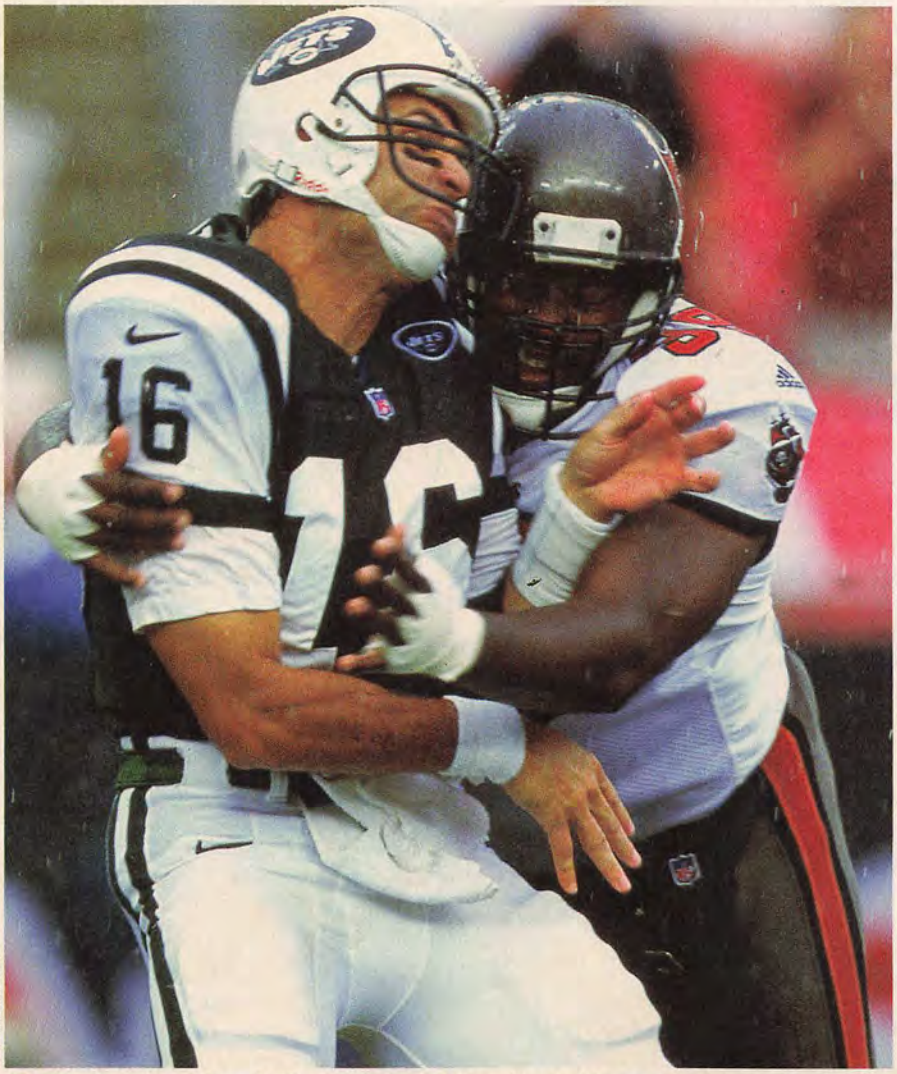
# Bucs to go on offensive with Johnson & Johnson

By William Wagner

Give the Tampa Bay Buccaneers credit for their unwavering commitment to reaching the Super Bowl. After their defense improbably carried them all the way to the NFC Championship game in 1999, the Bucs went out and signed Keyshawn Johnson, one of the game's elite wide receivers. Johnson—with his swagger, not to mention his prodigious pass-catching and blocking skills—was supposed to give Tampa Bay's offense the spark it needed to become Super Bowl-worthy.

But even with Johnson, the Bucs offense continued to flounder, ranking a mediocre 21st in the league. Once again, the defense had to shoulder the load, and Tampa Bay's Super Bowl dream died in a first-round playoff loss to the Eagles.

Undaunted by that disappointment, the Buccaneers regrouped and recruited more reinforcements this off-season. The key acquisition is quarterback Brad Johnson, whose efficient, cerebral style of play should put the offense in gear. Defensively, the Buccaneers added



CRAIG JONES/ALLSPORT

***The loud-mouthed Sapp is the NFL's best defensive tackle on an unstoppable D-line.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **7** |
| Brad Johnson is just what the doctor ordered. | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **7** |
| Dunn has proved he's ready for prime time. | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **6** |
| Finally, a QB who can get Keyshawn the damn ball. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **6.5** |
| Rookie Walker had better catch on quickly. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **9** |
| The bottom line? This line is unstoppable. | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **7** |
| Beware! You've entered the Brooks Zone. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **7** |
| It's the toughest group of DBs in the game. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **5** |
| Except for Gramatica, nothing special here. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **9** |
| Dungy & Co. are the best in the business. | |
| **OVERALL:** | **7.5** |
| New faces could push the Bucs over the top. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**1st in NFC Central**

## BUCCANEERS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Tony Dungy (47-38 with Tampa Bay)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Brad Johnson (WAS) | 227-364, 2,505 yds, 11 TDs |
| RB | Warrick Dunn | 248 car, 1,133 yds, 8 TDs |
| FB | Mike Alstott | 131 car, 465 yds, 5 TDs |
| TE | Dave Moore | 29 rec, 288 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | Keyshawn Johnson | 71 rec, 874 yds, 8 TDs |
| WR | Jacquez Green | 51 rec, 773 yds, 1 TD |
| LT | Kenyatta Walker (R) | 12 games, 10 starts* |
| LG | Randall McDaniel | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Jeff Christy | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Cosey Coleman | 8 games, 0 starts |
| RT | Jerry Wunsch | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Simeon Rice (ARI) | 33 tackles, 7.5 sacks |
| DT | Anthony McFarland | 50 tackles, 6.5 sacks |
| DT | Warren Sapp | 52 tackles, 16.5 sacks |
| DE | Marcus Jones | 35 tackles, 13 sacks |
| LB | Shelton Quarles | 50 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Jamie Duncan | 65 tackles, 4 INTs |
| LB | Derrick Brooks | 146 tackles, 1 sack |
| CB | Donnie Abraham | 57 tackles, 7 INTs |
| CB | Ronde Barber | 82 tackles, 2 INTs |
| SS | John Lynch | 85 tackles, 3 INTs |
| FS | John Howell (R) | 93 tackles, 2 INTs* |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Martin Gramatica | 42-42 XPs, 28-34 FGs |
| P | Mark Royals | 85 punts, 41.8 avg |
| KR | Aaron Stecker | 29 KR, 22.9 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Karl Williams | 31 PR, 9.2 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Mark Asanovich, strength and conditioning; Joe Barry, LBs; Jim Caldwell, QBs; Clyde Christensen, offensive coordinator; Chris Foerster, OL; Monte Kiffin, defensive coordinator; Joe Marciano, special teams; Rod Marinelli, DL; Tony Nathan, RBs; Kevin O'Dea, def. asst.; Ricky Thomas, TEs; Mike Tomlin, DBs; Charlie Williams, WRs

to their embarrassment of riches with end Simeon Rice, who had 24 sacks the past two seasons despite enduring double- and triple-teams on the abysmal Arizona Cardinals.

The bottom line? No team improved itself more in the off-season than the Buccaneers did. And that's downright scary news for the league's other 30 entries, because the Bucs didn't have far to go to finally make themselves into a Super Bowl team.

**Quarterbacks** Johnson had a down year for Washington in 2000, but that's partially because he was cast into such a dismal situation. Upset that the Redskins had brought in Jeff George last off-season, Johnson, who was terrific in '99, played every snap as if he were looking over his shoulder.

He won't have any such worries in Tampa. In addition to his smarts, the veteran, strong-armed QB is capable of delivering the big play, something his predecessor, Shaun King, couldn't do with any consistency. The only knock on Johnson is his ability to stay healthy.

Even if Johnson does go down for a period of time, all will not be lost. King, remember, was the guy under center when the Bucs went to the NFC title game in '99. Tampa Bay management became disenchanted with him last year because it felt his work habits deteriorated following a promising rookie season. But his swift fall from grace may serve as a wake-up call.

Adding even more depth to the QB position is—don't laugh—Ryan Leaf, who was signed by the Bucs after being dumped by the San Diego Chargers over the winter. Talent hasn't been the question with Leaf, the No. 2 pick overall in the 1998 draft. His 10-cent head is what has gotten him into trouble. Leaf insists he feels reborn in Tampa, but he showed up to the team's April minicamp at 260 pounds (25 over his playing weight) and then sprained his wrist.

**Running Backs** When fullback Mike Alstott was lost for part of last season with an injury, Warrick Dunn was forced to become the featured back. There always had been doubts about the durability of the 5'8", 180-pound Dunn, but he held up better than anyone could have imagined, rushing for a career-high 1,133 yards with eight TDs.

Following the emergence of Dunn, Alstott is expected to be used as more of an H-back this season, meaning he'll have an increased role as a pass-catcher. But the Bucs would be foolish not to utilize Alstott's lethal blend of power and surprising quickness as a runner.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The presence of Brad Johnson should significantly help this unit, which produced a paltry 16 touchdowns last year, one more than Minnesota's Randy Moss scored all by

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Dallas | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | Open Date | |
| Sept. 30 | at Minnesota | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | GREEN BAY | 4:15 |
| Oct. 14 | at Tennessee | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | MINNESOTA | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | at Green Bay | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at Detroit | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | CHICAGO | 1:00 |
| Nov. 26 | at St. Louis | 9:00 |
| Dec. 2 | at Cincinnati | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | DETROIT | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Chicago | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | NEW ORLEANS | 1:00 |
| Dec. 29 | BALTIMORE | 9:00 |

RAYMOND JAMES STADIUM (66,321)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

10-6, 2nd in NFC CENTRAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at New England | W, 21-16 |
| Sept. 10 | CHICAGO | W, 41-0 |
| Sept. 17 | at Detroit | W, 31-10 |
| Sept. 24 | NEW YORK JETS | L, 17-21 |
| Oct. 1 | at Washington | L, 17-20 |
| Oct. 9 | at Minnesota | L, 23-30 |
| Oct. 19 | DETROIT | L, 14-28 |
| Oct. 29 | MINNESOTA | W, 41-13 |
| Nov. 5 | at Atlanta | W, 27-14 |
| Nov. 12 | GREEN BAY | W, 20-15 |
| Nov. 19 | at Chicago | L, 10-13 |
| Nov. 26 | BUFFALO | W, 31-17 |
| Dec. 3 | DALLAS | W, 27-7 |
| Dec. 10 | at Miami | W, 16-13 |
| Dec. 18 | ST. LOUIS | W, 38-35 |
| Dec. 24 | at Green Bay | L, 14-17 |
| Dec. 31 | at Philadelphia* | L, 3-21 |

* NFC Wild Card

## 2000 BUCCANEERS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 290.6 (21) | 129.1 (9) | 161.4 (26) | 24.3 (6t) | 18 (5t) | 18 (19t) | 4.2 (12t) | 11.9 (12t) | 38 (16) | 275 (23) | 33.3 (26) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 300.0 (9) | 103.0 (9) | 197.0 (13) | 16.8 (7t) | 12 (12t) | 15 (7) | 4.1 (15t) | 10.3 (1) | 55 (2t) | 25 (3t) | 17 (3t) |

## 2001 BUCCANEERS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hamilton, Joe | 5'10" | 190 | 24 | 1 | Georgia Tech |
| 14 | Johnson, Brad | 6'5" | 224 | 32 | 9 | Florida State |
| 10 | King, Shaun | 6'0" | 225 | 24 | 2 | Tulane |
| 16 | Leaf, Ryan | 6'5" | 235 | 52 | 3 | Washington St. |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27 | Abdullah, Rabih | 6'1" | 227 | 26 | 4 | Lehigh |
| 40 | Alstott, Mike (FB) | 6'1" | 248 | 27 | 6 | Purdue |
| 0 | Chaney, Jeff | 6'0" | 200 | 24 | R | Florida State |
| 43 | Cook, Jameel | 5'10" | 227 | 22 | R | Illinois |
| 28 | Dunn, Warrick | 5'8" | 180 | 26 | 5 | Florida State |
| 48 | Kirby, Charles (FB) | 6'1" | 249 | 26 | 3 | Virginia |
| 22 | Stecker, Aaron | 5'10" | 205 | 25 | 2 | Western Illinois |
| 32 | Wilson, Jamie | 6'1" | 212 | 23 | R | East Carolina |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 85 | Anthony, Reidel | 5'11" | 180 | 24 | 5 | Florida |
| 17 | Daniels, Chris | 6'3" | 219 | 24 | 1 | Purdue |
| 82 | Finger, Dauntae' (TE) | 6'3" | 255 | 24 | R | North Carolina |
| 81 | Green, Jacquez | 5'9" | 168 | 25 | 4 | Florida |
| 18 | Hardaway, Eddie | 6'1" | 190 | 23 | R | C.W. Post |
| 4 | Hooks, Margin | 6'0" | 190 | 23 | R | BYU |
| 8 | Ivy, Khori | 6'1" | 195 | 23 | R | West Virginia |
| 19 | Johnson, Keyshawn | 6'4" | 212 | 29 | 6 | USC |
| 2 | Kilow, Robert | 5'10" | 167 | 25 | R | Arkansas St. |
| 83 | Moore, Dave (TE) | 6'2" | 258 | 31 | 9 | Pittsburgh |
| 45 | Newman, David (TE) | 6'6" | 245 | 23 | R | Louisiana Tech |
| 49 | Palmer, Randy (TE) | 6'4" | 235 | 25 | 2 | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 86 | Williams, Karl | 5'10" | 177 | 30 | 6 | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 6 | Willis, Alex | 5'10" | 176 | 22 | R | Florida |
| 80 | Yoder, Todd (TE) | 6'4" | 234 | 23 | 2 | Vanderbilt |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 57 | Benjamin, Ryan (C) | 6'2" | 240 | 23 | R | South Florida |
| 60 | Brown, Wilbert (G) | 6'2" | 310 | 24 | 1 | Houston |
| 62 | Christy, Jeff (C) | 6'2" | 285 | 32 | 9 | Pittsburgh |
| 60 | Coleman, Casey (G) | 6'4" | 322 | 22 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 76 | Curry, DeMarcus (T) | 6'5" | 332 | 26 | 2 | Auburn |
| 68 | Grice, Shane (G) | 6'1" | 300 | 24 | R | Mississippi |
| 72 | Gruber, Brian (T) | 6'6" | 316 | 23 | R | Vanderbilt |
| 79 | Hegamin, George (T) | 6'7" | 331 | 28 | 8 | N.C .State |
| 70 | Hires, Leon (G) | 6'4" | 285 | 23 | R | Florida |
| 65 | Hochstein, Russ (G) | 6'3" | 288 | 23 | R | Nebraska |
| 64 | McDaniel, Randall (G) | 6'3" | 287 | 36 | 14 | Arizona State |
| 69 | Pierson, Pete (T) | 6'5" | 315 | 30 | 7 | Washington |
| 67 | Walker, Kenyatta (T) | 6'5" | 302 | 22 | R | Florida |
| 75 | Washington, Todd (C) | 6'3" | 324 | 25 | 4 | Virginia Tech |
| 71 | Wunsch, Jerry (T) | 6'6" | 339 | 27 | 5 | Wisconsin |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 73 | Aracri, Andy (T) | 6'2" | 285 | 22 | R | Miami (Ohio) |
| 98 | Cannida, James (T) | 6'2" | 291 | 26 | 4 | Nevada-Reno |
| 91 | Darby, Chartric (T) | 6'0" | 250 | 25 | R | S. Carolina St. |
| 66 | Jolly, Terry (T) | 6'2" | 280 | 24 | R | Clemson |
| 78 | Jones, Marcus (T) | 6'6" | 278 | 28 | 6 | North Carolina |
| 76 | Mackenzie, Mike (T) | 6'2" | 269 | 23 | R | Colorado State |
| 92 | McFarland, Anthony (T) | 6'0" | 300 | 23 | 3 | LSU |
| 95 | McLaughlin, John (E) | 6'4" | 247 | 25 | 3 | California |
| 97 | Rice, Simeon (E) | 6'5" | 260 | 27 | 6 | Illinois |
| 99 | Sapp, Warren (T) | 6'2" | 303 | 28 | 7 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 77 | Tafoya, Joe (E) | 6'4" | 253 | 23 | R | Arizona |
| 94 | White, Steve (E) | 6'2" | 271 | 27 | 6 | Tennessee |
| 96 | Wyms, Ellis (E) | 6'3" | 279 | 22 | R | Mississippi St. |

### LINEBACKERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | Brooks, Derrick | 6'0" | 235 | 28 | 7 | Florida State |
| 59 | Duncan, Jamie | 6'0" | 242 | 26 | 4 | Vanderbilt |
| 53 | Quarles, Shelton | 6'1" | 230 | 29 | 5 | Vanderbilt |
| 51 | Singleton, Alshermond | 6'2" | 228 | 36 | 5 | Temple |
| 56 | Thweatt, Byron | 6'0" | 237 | 24 | R | Virginia |
| 54 | Waddy, Jude | 6'2" | 228 | 25 | 3 | William & Mary |
| 93 | Warner, Ron | 6'2" | 249 | 25 | 1 | Kansas |
| 52 | Webster, Nate | 5'11" | 225 | 23 | 2 | Miami (Fla.) |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | Abraham, Donnie | 5'10" | 192 | 27 | 6 | East Tenn. St. |
| 31 | Ardley, Alex | 5'9" | 173 | 22 | R | Clemson |
| 20 | Barber, Ronde | 5'10" | 184 | 26 | 5 | Virginia |
| 46 | Gibson, David | 6'1" | 210 | 23 | 2 | USC |
| 38 | Howell, John | 5'11" | 196 | 23 | R | Colorado State |
| 34 | Jackson, Dexter | 6'0" | 196 | 23 | 3 | Florida State |
| 25 | Kelly, Brian | 5'11" | 193 | 25 | 4 | USC |
| 47 | Lynch, John | 6'2" | 220 | 29 | 9 | Stanford |
| 39 | Merrill, Than | 6'3" | 220 | 23 | R | Yale |
| 30 | Midget, Anthony | 5'11" | 188 | 23 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 26 | Smith, Dwight | 5'10" | 201 | 22 | R | Akron |
| 33 | Vance, Eric | 6'2" | 218 | 26 | 4 | Vanderbilt |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Bayes, Andrew (P) | 6'1" | 198 | 23 | R | East Carolina |
| 7 | Gramatica, Martin (K) | 5'8" | 170 | 25 | 3 | Kansas State |
| 3 | Royals, Mark (P) | 6'5" | 215 | 35 | 13 | Appalachian St. |

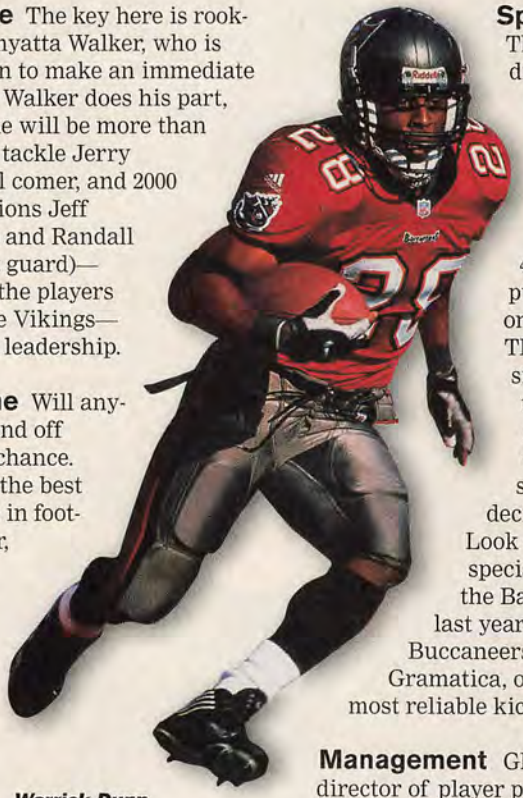
himself. Part of the problem was King's inability to put the ball where he was supposed to. Another factor was the vanilla offense installed by coordinator Les Steckel (since fired).

While the offense still will be somewhat staid under new coordinator Clyde Christensen, Brad Johnson gives the Bucs the ability to open things up a bit. And although the 2000 stats don't say so, there is talent at receiver. Keyshawn Johnson is a former Pro Bowler who should flourish with a veteran QB on board, and field-stretching Jacquez Green is poised for a breakout.

On the negative side, former first-rounder Reidel Anthony looks like a big-time bust. And while tight end Dave Moore is a steady target, the Bucs want more gusto from that position.

**Offensive Line** The key here is rookie left tackle Kenyatta Walker, who is being counted on to make an immediate contribution. If Walker does his part, Tampa Bay's line will be more than adequate. Right tackle Jerry Wunsch is a real comer, and 2000 free-agent additions Jeff Christy (center) and Randall McDaniel (right guard)—while not quite the players they were on the Vikings—provide veteran leadership.

**Defensive Line** Will anyone be able to fend off these guys? No chance. Warren Sapp is the best defensive tackle in football. His partner, Anthony McFarland, is developing into a solid starter and bull against the run, and end Marcus Jones had a breakout year in 2000 with 13 sacks. Now sackmaster Rice enters the mix at the other end. With so much talent around him, Rice—whose arrival forced Chidi Ahanotu's release—could win the 2001 sack title.



***Warrick Dunn***

**Linebackers** This unit has slipped slightly since Hardy Nickerson left via free agency last year. His replacement in the middle, Jamie Duncan, isn't a bad stand-in, but he doesn't have Nickerson's leadership skills. Still, as long as Derrick Brooks is around, the linebacker corps will hold its own. No outside linebacker in the game covers more ground than Brooks. Even if Shelton Quarles starts, expect to see Miami product Nate Webster a lot.

**Defensive Backs** The tackling ability of Tampa Bay's corners is what sets them apart. There aren't any Deions in this bunch. Donnie Abraham is one of the NFL's top blitzing cornerbacks. The re-signing of up-and-coming Ronde Barber was pivotal to keeping the unit solid.

As for safety, we have two words: John Lynch. The Pro Bowler epitomizes the aggressive brand of football played by the Bucs defense. The effect of his jarring hits often can be seen late in games, when opposing receivers become skittish and start bobbling balls. A lack of veteran depth at both cornerback and safety could cause problems.

**Special Teams** The Buccaneers didn't score a single touchdown on kickoff returns last year, and their longest runback was a mere 48 yards. On punts, they had one return for a TD. For a defensive-minded team, the inability to generate game-turning plays on special teams is a decided hindrance. Look at what explosive special teams meant to the Baltimore Ravens last year. At least the Buccaneers have Martin Gramatica, one of the game's most reliable kickers.

**Management** GM Rich McKay, director of player personnel Jerry Angelo, director of college scouting Tim Ruskell and coach Tony Dungy have been together since 1996, which goes a long way in explaining why the Bucs have one of the most stable operations in football. Their drafts have been exceptional, netting players such as Abraham, Alstott, Dunn, Jones, Gramatica and Wunsch. And marquee free agents—Christy, Brad Johnson, McDaniel and Rice—are drawn to Dungy, whose no-nonsense, low-key style strikes a chord with players.

*William Wagner is Editor-in-Chief of* Football Digest.

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

By season's end, Keyshawn Johnson may actually be able to back up what he told us throughout 2000: That he's the best there is.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

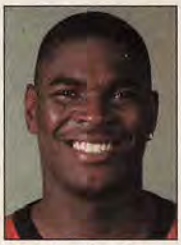
Tampa Bay vs. Baltimore on Dec. 29 will be the pinnacle of defensive showdowns. The Bucs will find out how close they are to the Super Bowl.

### KEY STAT

The Bucs' anemic offense ranked 26th in the league last year in third-down efficiency, which is why they got heady Brad Johnson.

### GLUE GUY

As Warren Sapp goes, so go the Buccaneers. The motor-mouthed defensive tackle gives Tampa Bay its swagger.



***Keyshawn Johnson***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Kenyatta Walker** OT, Florida
Schooled in a pro-style offense, he's NFL-ready.

3 **Dwight Smith** CB, Akron
Needs to hone his technique, but could be a real steal.

4 **John Howell** S, Colorado State
Like John Lynch, he's a world-class hitter.

5 **Ross Hockstein** G, Nebraska
Fiery competitor hails from Offensive Lineman U.

6 **Jameel Cook** FB, Illinois
Lacks NFL fullback size (5'10", 225); blocking is suspect.

6 **Ellis Wyms** DE, Mississippi State
A tweener who could wind up at either end or tackle.

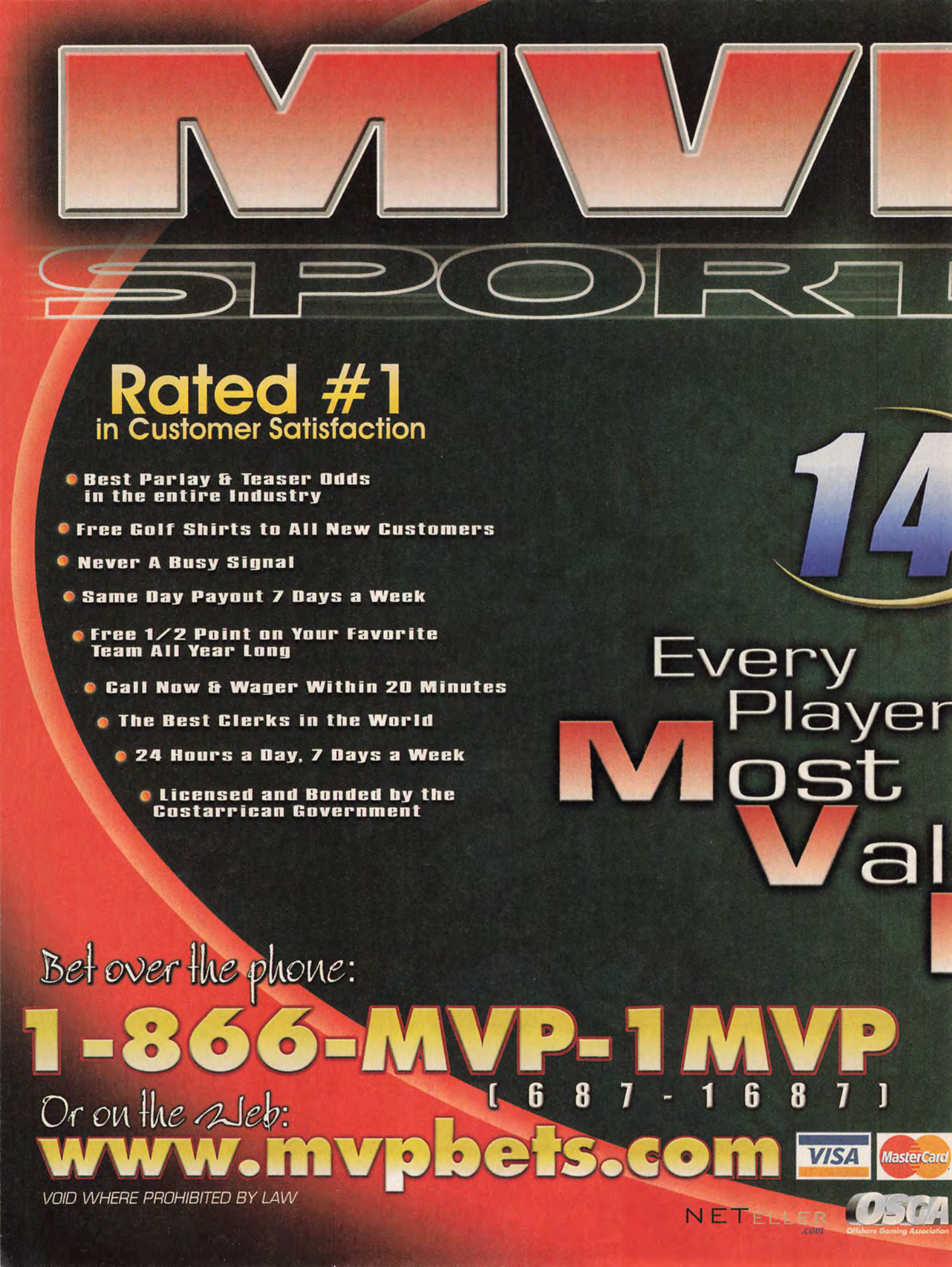
7 **Dauntae' Finger** TE, North Carolina
Could be a contributor at a sore spot for the Bucs.

7 **Than Merrill** S, Yale
The former QB is a long shot to make the team.

7 **Joe Tafoya** DE, Arizona
Has the pass-rushing skills to catch on as a reserve.

**B+** Tampa Bay's trademark aggressiveness was on full display at the draft. The Bucs traded up seven spots in the first round to grab massive left tackle Walker. Barring an unforeseen injury, Walker will start, plugging the one major hole Tampa Bay needed to fill. The Bucs already had one of the grittier secondaries in football, but they were wise to add depth with Smith, Howell and Merrill. Howell is underrated, and Smith should play in nickel packages.

NFL (JOHNSON); ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT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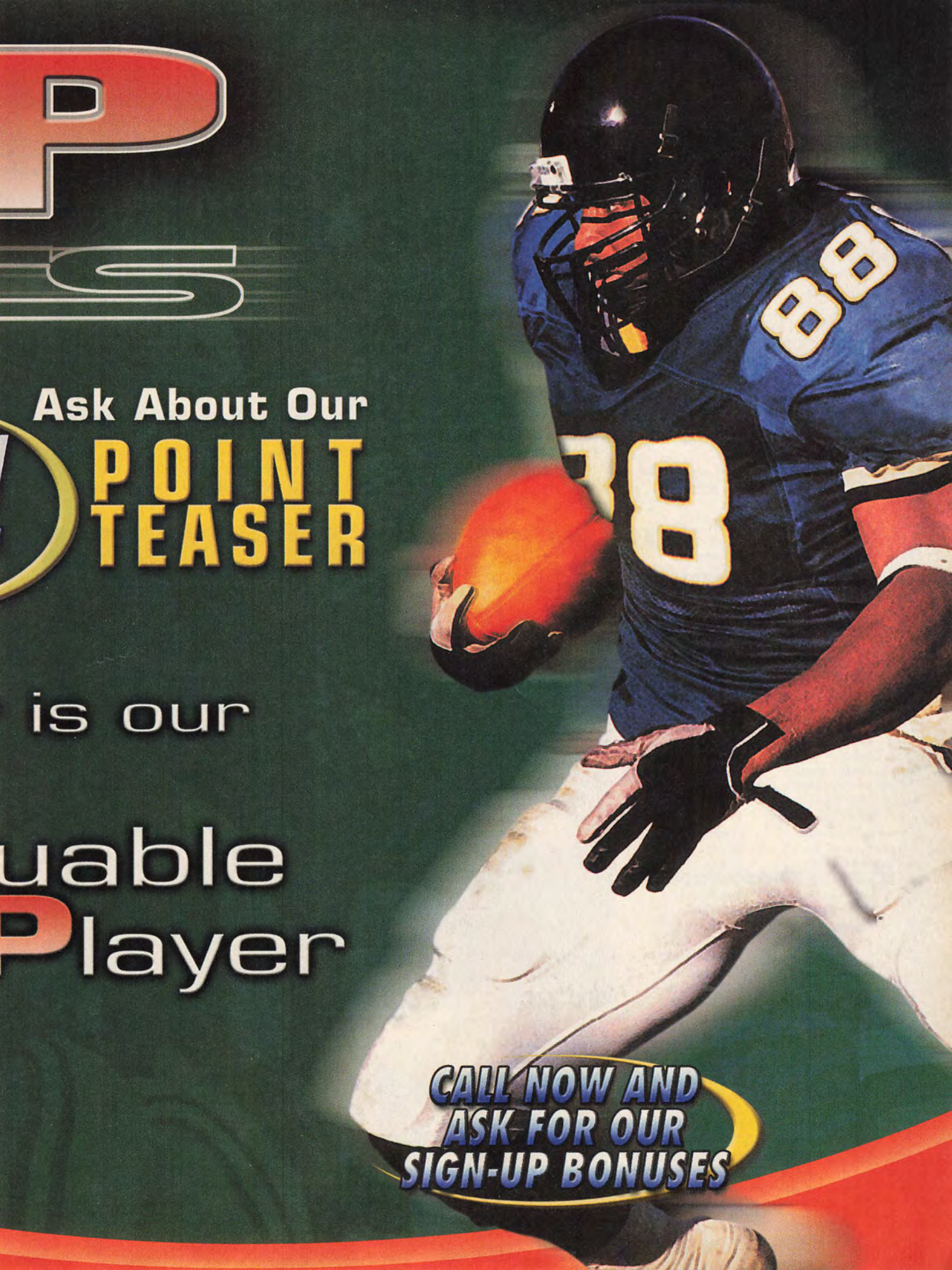
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# Green Bay PACKERS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** When Favre is on, anything is possible. | 8 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Potentially the best ground attack of Favre era. | 7 |
| **RECEIVERS:** They'll be as good as Freeman wants to be. | 5 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** More holes than a piece of Wisconsin swiss. | 4 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Are the pass-rushing woes a thing of the past? | 5 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Solid up top, but there is little depth. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Thank God for Sharper and Butler. | 6 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** All that's missing is some pop at punter. | 6 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Sherman is a perfect fit for Green Bay. | 7 |
| **OVERALL:** A return to the playoffs is within reach. | 6 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**2nd in NFC Central**

## PACKERS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Mike Sherman (9-7 with Green Bay)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Brett Favre | 338-580, 3,812 yds, 20 TDs |
| RB | Ahman Green | 263 car, 1,175 yds, 10 TDs |
| FB | William Henderson | 2 car, 16 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Bubba Franks | 34 rec, 363 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | Antonio Freeman | 62 rec, 912 yds, 9 TDs |
| WR | Bill Schroeder | 65 rec, 999 yds, 4 TDs |
| LT | Chad Clifton | 13 games, 10 starts |
| LG | Mark Tauscher | 16 games, 14 starts |
| C | Mike Flanagan | 16 games, 2 starts |
| RG | Marco Rivera | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Earl Dotson | 2 games, 2 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Vonnie Holliday | 35 tackles, 5 sacks |
| DT | Gilbert Brown | DNP IN NFL |
| DT | Russell Maryland | 36 tackles, 0 sacks |
| DE | Jamal Reynolds (R) | 58 tackles, 12 sacks* |
| LB | Na'il Diggs | 33 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Bernardo Harris | 97 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Nate Wayne | 101 tackles, 2 sacks |
| CB | Mike McKenzie | 33 tackles, 1 INT |
| CB | Tyrone Williams | 58 tackles, 4 INTs |
| SS | LeRoy Butler | 92 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Darren Sharper | 92 tackles, 9 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Ryan Longwell | 32-32 XPs, 33-38 FGs |
| P | Josh Bidwell | 78 punts, 38.5 avg |
| KR | Allen Rossum | 50 KR, 25.8 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | Allen Rossum | 29 PR, 8.6 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Larry Beightol, OL; Darrell Bevell, off. asst.; Sylvester Croom, RBs; Ed Donatell, defensive coordinator; Jethro Franklin, DL; Jeff Jagodzinski, TEs; Brad Miller, def. asst.; Frank Novak, special teams; Bo Pelini, LBs; Tom Rossley, offensive coordinator; Barry Rubin, strength and conditioning; Ray Sherman, WRs; Bob Slowik, DBs; Lionel Washington, asst. DBs

# Favre's charge: return Pack to its glory days

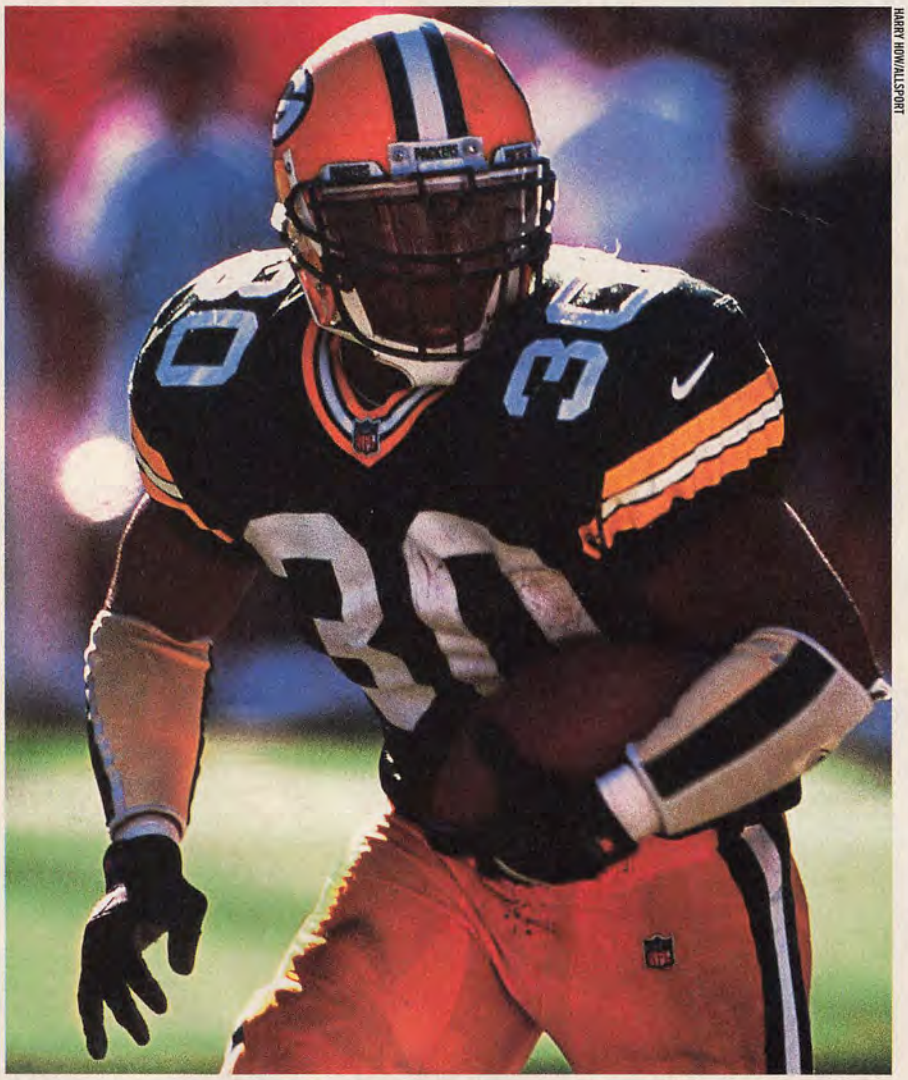
Has it really been only three seasons since the Packers last appeared in the Super Bowl? Given all that has transpired following Green Bay's loss to Denver in Super Bowl XXXII, it seems like an eternity.

Talk about upheaval. First, Mike Holmgren resigned as coach following the 1998 season, giving way to Ray Rhodes, who lasted just one year before being replaced by Mike Sherman.

Then general manager Ron Wolf, the driving force behind the team's resurgence in the 1990s (which included a victory in Super Bowl XXXI), retired following this year's draft.

Previously, defensive stalwart Reggie White had retired after the 1997 season, unretired months later, retired again after the '98 campaign, unretired to play for the Carolina Panthers in 2000, and then retired yet again.

Wait, there's more. Tight end Mark Chmura, a Pro Bowler and local hero, fell from grace after being charged with sexual assault last year. He was cut by the Packers before being acquitted of those charges earlier this year.



HARRY HOW/ALLSPORT

***Green looked good in green last year, rushing for more than 1,000 yards and 10 TDs.***

Defensive tackle Gilbert Brown ate himself out of the league last year, but trimmed down (everything's relative) enough that the Pack re-signed him this off-season.

Through it all, the one constant has been quarterback Brett Favre. At times, that has been enough. With Favre under center last season, the Packers won their final four games to finish 9-7 and barely miss the playoffs. The late push showed this team may not be done yet.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | DETROIT | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at N.Y. Giants | 1:00 |
| Sept. 24 | WASHINGTON | 9:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at Carolina | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | at Tampa Bay | 4:15 |
| Oct. 14 | BALTIMORE | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Minnesota | 4:15 |
| Oct. 28 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 4 | TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at Chicago | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| Nov. 22 | at Detroit | 12:30 |
| Dec. 3 | at Jacksonville | 9:00 |
| Dec. 9 | CHICAGO | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Tennessee | 4:15 |
| Dec. 23 | CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | MINNESOTA | 1:00 |

LAMBEAU FIELD (60,890)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

**9-7, T-3rd in NFC CENTRAL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | NEW YORK JETS | L, 16-20 |
| Sept. 10 | at Buffalo | L, 18-27 |
| Sept. 17 | PHILADELPHIA | W, 6-3 |
| Sept. 24 | at Arizona | W, 29-3 |
| Oct. 1 | CHICAGO | L, 24-27 |
| Oct. 8 | at Detroit | L, 24-31 |
| Oct. 15 | SAN FRANCISCO | W, 31-28 |
| Oct. 29 | at Miami | L, 20-28 |
| Nov. 6 | MINNESOTA | W, 26-20 |
| Nov. 12 | at Tampa Bay | L, 15-20 |
| Nov. 19 | INDIANAPOLIS | W, 26-24 |
| Nov. 27 | at Carolina | L, 14-31 |
| Dec. 3 | at Chicago | W, 28-6 |
| Dec. 10 | DETROIT | W, 26-13 |
| Dec. 17 | at Minnesota | W, 33-28 |
| Dec. 24 | TAMPA BAY | W, 17-14 |

**Quarterbacks** Sure, he turns 32 in October and has been bounced around like a pinball during his 10 NFL seasons, but Favre remains one of the game's top three quarterbacks. And as a pure leader, he's Number 1. Despite only a so-so group of wide receivers last season, Favre threw for 3,812 yards. (He's 294 yards shy of 35,000 for his career.) All the while, he played with his trademark exuberance, which somehow makes those around him perform beyond their means.

Still, as tough as he is, Favre can't defy Father Time indefinitely. He has started 141 consecutive games (an NFL record for a quarterback), but logic dictates his miraculous streak will end sooner rather than later. That's why the departure of promising signal-caller Matt Hasselbeck to Holmgren's Seattle Seahawks could potentially hurt.

Green Bay did, however, sign CFL star Henry Burris—he looked terrific in minicamp—and Doug Pederson, a member of the Pack from 1995-98. Pederson's experience gives him the nod as Favre's backup, even though he's a garden-variety player.

**Running Backs** If oft-injured Dorsey Levens manages to stay healthy, the Packers will have one of the most potent one-two punches in the league. If not, they'll still have plenty of pop. Ahman Green, acquired last year from Seattle for a song (cornerback Fred Vinson and a sixth-round pick), has been nothing short of a revelation. Starting in place of an ailing Levens last season, he rushed for 1,175 yards and 10 scores.

Green bursts through the line more explosively than Levens does, which adds a whole new dimension to the offense. He also has turned out to be Levens' equal as a pass catcher, a quality of primary importance for a running back in Green Bay's West Coast attack. In fact, Green led the team in receptions last season with 73, three of which went for TDs.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The Packers drafted Robert Ferguson in the second round, but what they really need is for Antonio Freeman to be the player he was during their Super Bowl years. Once one of the NFL's most dynamic wideouts, Freeman has dropped off significantly since signing a big contract a couple of years ago.

Other than Freeman, Green Bay has a bunch of second-tier receivers who

## 2000 PACKERS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 332.6 (15) | 102.7 (23) | 229.9 (8) | 22.1 (10t) | 13 (17t) | 21 (12t) | 4.1 (16t) | 11.3 (18t) | 34 (10t) | 315 (9) | 39.0 (16) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 316.8 (15) | 101.1 (8) | 215.7 (19) | 20.2 (14) | 7 (2t) | 28 (29) | 3.9 (8t) | 12.0 (23) | 37 (20) | 21 (6t) | -5 (20t) |

## 2001 PACKERS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16 | Beasley, Jonathan | 6'0" | 227 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 10 | Burris, Henry | 6'1" | 195 | 26 | R | Temple |
| 4 | Favre, Brett | 6'2" | 225 | 31 | 11 | Southern Miss |
| 18 | Pederson, Doug | 6'3" | 220 | 33 | 9 | La.-Monroe |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29 | Goodman, Herbert | 5'11" | 203 | 24 | 2 | Graceland |
| 30 | Green, Ahman | 6'0" | 217 | 24 | 4 | Nebraska |
| 33 | Henderson, William (FB) | 6'1" | 253 | 30 | 7 | North Carolina |
| 25 | Levens, Dorsey | 6'1" | 230 | 31 | 8 | Georgia Tech |
| 32 | Mealey, Rondell | 6'0" | 219 | 24 | 1 | LSU |
| 22 | Parker, De'Mond | 5'10" | 185 | 24 | 3 | Oklahoma |
| 44 | Snider, Matt (FB) | 6'2" | 240 | 25 | 3 | Richmond |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 85 | Bradford, Corey | 6'1" | 197 | 25 | 4 | Jackson State |
| 19 | Coutain, Kenny | 6'2" | 205 | 24 | R | Memphis |
| 81 | Davis, Tyrone (TE) | 6'4" | 260 | 29 | 6 | Virginia |
| 80 | Driver, Donald | 6'0" | 177 | 26 | 3 | Alcorn State |
| 89 | Ferguson, Robert | 6'1" | 209 | 21 | R | Texas A&M |
| 88 | Franks, Bubba (TE) | 6'6" | 260 | 23 | 2 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 86 | Freeman, Antonio | 6'1" | 198 | 29 | 7 | Virginia Tech |
| 48 | Freeman, Jason (TE) | 6'3" | 245 | 24 | R | Oklahoma |
| 82 | Lee, Charles | 6'2" | 202 | 23 | 2 | Central Florida |
| 87 | Lucas, Anthony | 6'3" | 204 | 24 | 1 | Arkansas |
| 49 | Newman, Adam (TE) | 6'5" | 248 | 23 | R | Boston College |
| 84 | Schroeder, Bill | 6'3" | 205 | 30 | 6 | Wis.-La Crosse |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 76 | Clifton, Chad (T) | 6'5" | 325 | 25 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 61 | Curry, Scott (T) | 6'5" | 300 | 25 | 2 | Montana |
| 72 | Dotson, Earl (T) | 6'4" | 317 | 30 | 9 | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 63 | Ferrario, Bill (G) | 6'2" | 313 | 22 | R | Wisconsin |
| 58 | Flanagan, Mike (C) | 6'5" | 297 | 27 | 6 | UCLA |
| 77 | McFadden, Marques (T) | 6'5" | 329 | 22 | R | Arizona |
| 69 | Mercier, Richard (G) | 6'3" | 300 | 26 | 2 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 62 | Rivera, Marco (G) | 6'4" | 310 | 29 | 6 | Penn State |
| 64 | Schau, Tom (C) | 6'4" | 285 | 25 | R | Illinois |
| 79 | Stokes, Barry (G) | 6'4" | 310 | 27 | 4 | Eastern Mich. |
| 65 | Tauscher, Mark (G) | 6'3" | 313 | 24 | 2 | Wisconsin |
| 68 | Wahle, Mike (T) | 6'6" | 310 | 24 | 4 | Navy |
| 52 | Winters, Frank (C) | 6'3" | 305 | 37 | 15 | Western Illinois |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 93 | Brown, Gilbert (NT) | 6'2" | 339 | 30 | 8 | Kansas |
| 70 | Brown, Roosevelt (T) | 6'2" | 311 | 23 | R | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 60 | Davis, Rob (T) | 6'3" | 286 | 32 | 6 | Shippensburg |
| 71 | Dotson, Santana (T) | 6'5" | 285 | 31 | 10 | Baylor |
| 94 | Gbaja-Biamila, Kabeer (E) | 6'4" | 245 | 23 | 2 | San Diego St. |
| 90 | Holliday, Vonnie (T) | 6'5" | 290 | 25 | 4 | North Carolina |
| 97 | Hunt, Cletidus (T) | 6'4" | 299 | 25 | 3 | Kentucky State |
| 75 | Kehl, Ed (E) | 6'4" | 310 | 29 | R | BYU |
| 98 | Lyon, Billy (E) | 6'5" | 295 | 27 | 4 | Marshall |
| 83 | Martin, David (T) | 6'4" | 242 | 22 | R | Tennessee |
| 67 | Maryland, Russell (T) | 6'1" | 308 | 32 | 11 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 99 | Reynolds, Jamal (E) | 6'3" | 266 | 22 | R | Florida State |
| 91 | Thierry, John (E) | 6'4" | 262 | 29 | 8 | Alcorn State |
| 95 | Warren, Steve (T) | 6'1" | 298 | 23 | 2 | Nebraska |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 45 | Curry, Donte | 6'1" | 223 | 23 | R | Morris Brown |
| 59 | Diggs, Na'il | 6'4" | 234 | 23 | 2 | Ohio State |
| 57 | Gizzi, Chris | 6'0" | 235 | 26 | 2 | Air Force |
| 55 | Harris, Bernardo | 6'2" | 246 | 29 | 7 | North Carolina |
| 46 | Lenon, Paris | 6'1" | 233 | 23 | 1 | Richmond |
| 51 | Marshall, Torrance | 6'2" | 245 | 23 | R | Oklahoma |
| 56 | McCaslin, Eugene | 6'1" | 226 | 24 | 1 | Florida |
| 53 | Morton, Mike | 6'4" | 238 | 29 | 7 | North Carolina |
| 54 | Wayne, Nate | 6'0" | 230 | 26 | 4 | Mississippi |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 | Akins, Chris | 5'11" | 195 | 24 | 3 | Ark.-Pine Bluff |
| 36 | Butler, LeRoy | 6'0" | 203 | 33 | 12 | Florida State |
| 28 | Darden, Tony | 5'11" | 193 | 26 | 2 | Texas Tech |
| 23 | Demps, Damian | 6'1" | 191 | 22 | R | Central Florida |
| 24 | Edwards, Antuan | 6'1" | 205 | 24 | 3 | Clemson |
| 21 | Jue, Bhawoh | 6'0" | 197 | 21 | R | Penn State |
| 27 | McBride, Tod | 6'1" | 207 | 25 | 3 | UCLA |
| 43 | McGarrahan, Scott | 6'1" | 198 | 27 | 4 | New Mexico |
| 34 | McKenzie, Mike | 6'0" | 185 | 25 | 3 | Memphis |
| 20 | Rossum, Allen | 5'8" | 178 | 25 | 4 | Notre Dame |
| 42 | Sharper, Darren | 6'2" | 205 | 25 | 5 | William & Mary |
| 37 | Williams, Tyrone | 5'11" | 193 | 28 | 6 | Nebraska |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Bidwell, Josh (P) | 6'3" | 222 | 25 | 2 | Oregon |
| 8 | Longwell, Ryan (K) | 6'0" | 198 | 27 | 5 | California |
| 11 | Stemke, Kevin (P) | 6'3" | 189 | 22 | R | Wisconsin |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

It's not what's eating Gilbert Brown, it's what's Gilbert Brown eating. The 350-pound defensive tackle will own the trenches if he can win his personal battle of the bulge.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Brett Favre vs. Tampa Bay's brash defensive tackle Warren Sapp. Individual rivalries don't get much better than this.

### KEY STAT

Once invincible at Lambeau, the Packers have lost five times there the past two seasons. To make the playoffs, they'll need that Lambeau aura.

### GLUE GUY

Is there any doubt? Folks around Green Bay shudder at the mere thought of Favre on the sideline.

*Gilbert Brown*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Jamal Reynolds** DE, Florida State
Compensates for lack of size with burst to the passer.

2 **Robert Ferguson** WR, Texas A&M
If he hones his technique, he'll be a big-play weapon.

3 **Bhawoh Jue** CB, Penn State
He has good size and athleticism, but tackling is subpar.

3 **Torrance Marshall** LB, Oklahoma
This gamer could be the steal of Green Bay's draft.

4 **Bill Ferrario** G, Wisconsin
Product of the Badgers' vaunted O-line system.

6 **David Martin** TE, Tennessee
Too slow to become wideout; blocking skills need refining.

---

BGM Ron Wolf certainly didn't complete his storied career in Green Bay on a sour note. The Packers went defense in the first round with Reynolds, a smart move that should add additional punch to a pass rush that was inconsistent at times last season. Some had Ferguson tabbed to go higher, and he could turn into the additional playmaker and complement to Antonio Freeman that Brett Farve needs. Marshall is a sleeper who received a lot of attention after his MVP performance in the Orange Bowl. He's a solid tackler, can cover the tight end and is speedy enough to make an impact on special teams right away. Jue is a tall, physical cover guy with a knack for the pick. Though none of these guys may turn into NFL superstars, they're solid across the board.

have been propped up by Favre. Though the sure-handed Bill Schroeder has game-breaking ability, he still seems to be trying to develop a rapport with Favre. Tight end hasn't been the same since the era of Chmura, who was Favre's go-to guy. Bubba Franks, though, made a lot of progress last year.

**Offensive Line** The last thing the Packers need is Favre running for his life, but that's exactly what might happen. A line that has been steadily depleted in recent years took another hit this off-season when up-and-coming left guard Ross Verba signed with the Browns. That means the Pack probably will have to move tackle Mark Tauscher to Verba's vacated position. Making matters worse, right tackle Earl Dotson and center Frank Winters appear to be in the twilight of their careers.

There is, however, some reason for optimism. Chad Clifton ably manned the tricky left tackle position as a rookie last year and should only get better. And right guard Marco Rivera has developed into a top-flight player; he was rewarded in the off-season with a four-year contract.

**Defensive Line** Was the signing of Brown an act of desperation, or is the supersized defensive tackle ready to get down to business after sitting out 2000? Let's just say bringing back Brown certainly won't hurt. If he keeps his weight in check, he'll beef up an interior line led by the dependable Russell Maryland.

Of far greater significance is the drafting of defensive end Jamal Reynolds. The Packers didn't have a bona fide pass rusher last year, a deficiency that put too much pressure on the secondary. Reynolds will have to catch on quickly because Green Bay's other end, Vonnie Holliday, hasn't done much of anything since his promising rookie season in 1998. Hey, maybe White will decide to return for yet another tour of duty. This group certainly misses his leadership.

**Linebackers** You won't find any household names here, but the sum is greater than the individual parts. Nate Wayne, Bernardo Harris and rookie Na'il Diggs combined for 231 tackles last year, making this the Packers' most efficient defensive unit. Largely on the backs of those three players, Green Bay ranked eighth in the league last year in run defense. After the starters, however, the linebacker corps thins out quickly.

**Defensive Backs** Last season, free safety Darren Sharper finally became the player the Packers kept saying he'd be after drafting him in 1997. Now the undisputed leader of the defense, Sharper was given a six-year, $30 million contract in the off-season. Meanwhile, 11-year veteran LeRoy Butler still is among the league's better strong safeties.

At cornerback, mainstays Mike McKenzie and Tyrone Williams didn't embarrass themselves last season, but the Packers still need a playmaker at this position.

*Brett Favre*

**Special Teams** How good is Ryan Longwell? He hit on 33 of 38 field goal attempts last year—including 13 of 15 from 40 to 49 yards—which is remarkable considering he kicks in the treacherous conditions at Lambeau Field. In returner Allen Rossum, the Packers have a legitimate game-breaker. They could use an upgrade over incumbent punter Josh Bidwell.

**Management** Sherman was something of an unknown when he was named head coach last year following a season as Seattle's offensive coordinator. His only head-coaching experience? At Stamford (Conn.) High School, in 1979 and '80. GM Wolf, however, looked beyond the résumé. Wolf grew to like Sherman when he served as Green Bay's tight ends coach in 1997 and '98, and the GM had a hunch Sherman could restore discipline to a team that had none under Rhodes.

Sherman did just that. In fact, he was so diligent the Packers gave him Wolf's GM duties. That, however, could be a reach for a man who hadn't even fully adjusted to the pressure-cooker of coaching. Now he replaces one of the best GMs in football. That's pressure.

*—William Wagner*

NFL (BROWN); TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

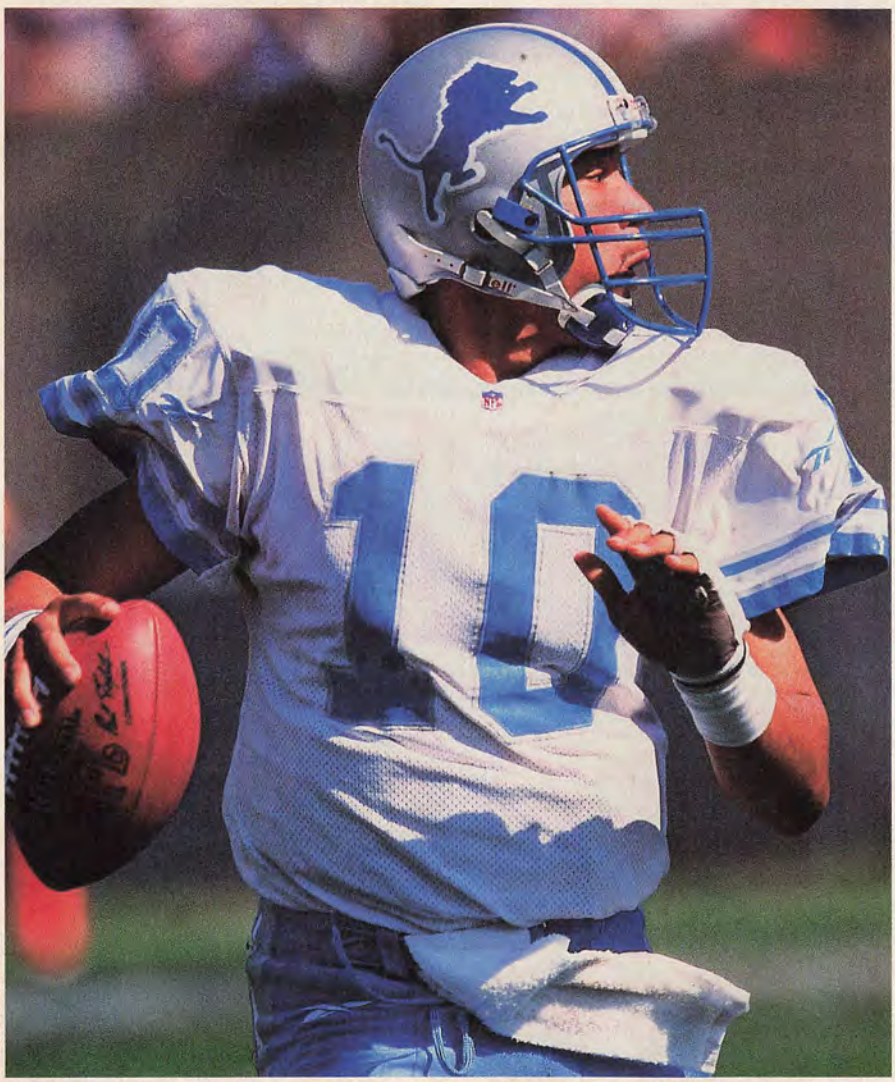
# New management plans to get team over hump

The Detroit Lions have become painfully easy to read. Almost every season, they show a degree of talent and surprising character, but in the end, they wind up breaking their fans' hearts.

The 2000 season was no deviation from that script. Detroit overcame a string of injuries—not to mention the shocking resignation of its coach, Bobby Ross, at midseason—to emerge as a playoff frontrunner. But just when Lions fans dared to get their hopes up, the team lost three of its final four and missed the postseason altogether.

It's been like this for, well, forever. The Lions consistently are contenders—in the NFC Central in the 1990s, only the Vikings had more playoff appearances than Detroit's six—but they have little to show for it. Since capturing the NFL title in 1957, the Lions have won just one playoff game.

This year, a new management team—consisting of president Matt Millen, executive director of player personnel Bill Tobin, director of football administration/staff counsel Martin Mayhew



DAVID DUROCHIK/SPORTPICS

***Erratic quarterback Batch may struggle to run Detroit's new West Coast offense.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **4** | Batch beats McNown, but what's that worth? |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **7** | Stewart and Schlesinger are a punishing duo. |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **7** | Batch hasn't gotten the most out of gifted group. |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **4** | Struggling unit didn't need to lose Jeff Hartings. |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **7** | These warriors chew up QBs and RBs alike. |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **7** | A star (Boyd) and another in waiting (Claiborne). |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **5** | Still O.K., but not quite what they once were. |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **7** | Rock solid in all phases of the game. |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **6** | Lots of potential, but no results yet. |
| **OVERALL:** | **6** | If not for Batch, they'd be a bigger NFC factor. |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**3rd in NFC Central**

## LIONS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Marty Mornhinweg (1st year with Detroit)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | **Charlie Batch** | 221-412, 2,489 yds, 13 TDs |
| RB | **James Stewart** | 339 car, 1,184 yds, 10 TDs |
| FB | **Cory Schlesinger** | 1 car, 3 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | **David Sloan** | 32 rec, 379 yds, 2 TDs |
| WR | **Johnnie Morton** | 61 rec, 788 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | **Germane Crowell** | 34 rec, 430 yds, 3 TDs |
| LT | **Jeff Backus** (R) | 12 games, 12 starts* |
| LG | **Matt Joyce** (ARI) | 13 games, 13 starts |
| C | **Dominic Raiola** (R) | 12 games, 12 starts* |
| RG | **Brenden Stai** (JAX) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | **Stockar McDougle** | 8 games, 8 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | **Robert Porcher** | 36 tackles, 8 sacks |
| DT | **James Jones** | 45 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DT | **Luther Elliss** | 39 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DE | **Tracy Scroggins** | 44 tackles, 6.5 sacks |
| LB | **Allen Aldridge** | 59 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | **Stephen Boyd** | 139 tackles, 0.5 sacks |
| LB | **Chris Claiborne** | 104 tackles, 0.5 sacks |
| CB | **Todd Lyght** (STL) | 52 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | **Terry Fair** | 57 tackles, 2 INTs |
| SS | **Ron Rice** | 67 tackles, 1 INT |
| FS | **Kurt Schulz** | 54 tackles, 7 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | **Jason Hanson** | 29-29 XPs, 24-30 FGs |
| P | **John Jett** | 93 punts, 43.5 avg |
| KR | **Desmond Howard** | 57 KR, 24.6 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | **Desmond Howard** | 31 PR, 14.7 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Jason Arapoff, strength and conditioning; Maurice Carthon, RBs; Don Clemons, def. asst; Charles Haley, pass-rush specialist; Kevin Higgins, QBs; Larry Kirksey, WRs; Sean Kugler, TEs; Carl Mauck, OL; Mike McHugh, off. quality control; Glenn Pires, LBs; Chuck Priefer, special teams; Richard Selcer, DBs; Vince Tobin, defensive coordinator; Bill Young, DL

and head coach Marty Mornhinweg—will try to turn the tide of history. Will things be different in 2001? Don't count on it.

**Quarterbacks** The Lions inexplicably made a long-term commitment last year to Charlie Batch, so this franchise's long-standing quarterback woes may continue indefinitely.

Although Batch was hindered somewhat in 2000 after breaking his leg in the off-season, it's obvious he's a weak link even when healthy. Despite being surrounded by quality receivers and a workhorse of a running back in James Stewart, the fourth-year QB has yet to demonstrate he can make big plays. The guy completed only 53.6% of his passes and was picked off 15 times to only 13 TDs. Needless to say, there are serious questions about Batch's ability to operate Mornhinweg's new West Coast offense.

Detroit wisely signed Jim Harbaugh to back up Batch. While no one ever will mistake Harbaugh for Kurt Warner, he's a blood-and-guts QB who can provide valuable veteran leadership if the situation calls for it.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Green Bay | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | DALLAS | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Cleveland | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 8 | ST. LOUIS | 9:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at Minnesota | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | TENNESSEE | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | at San Francisco | 4:05 |
| Nov. 11 | TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at Arizona | 4:15 |
| Nov. 22 | GREEN BAY | 12:30 |
| Dec. 2 | at Chicago | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at Tampa Bay | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | MINNESOTA | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Pittsburgh | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | CHICAGO | 1:00 |

PONTIAC SILVERDOME (80,311)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

9-7, T-3rd in NFC CENTRAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at New Orleans | W, 14-10 |
| Sept. 10 | WASHINGTON | W, 15-10 |
| Sept. 17 | TAMPA BAY | L, 10-31 |
| Sept. 24 | at Chicago | W, 21-14 |
| Oct. 1 | MINNESOTA | L, 24-31 |
| Oct. 8 | GREEN BAY | W, 31-24 |
| Oct. 19 | at Tampa Bay | W, 28-14 |
| Oct. 29 | at Indianapolis | L, 18-30 |
| Nov. 5 | MIAMI | L, 8-23 |
| Nov. 12 | ATLANTA | W, 13-10 |
| Nov. 19 | at New York Giants | W, 31-21 |
| Nov. 23 | NEW ENGLAND | W, 34-9 |
| Nov. 30 | at Minnesota | L, 17-24 |
| Dec. 10 | at Green Bay | L, 13-26 |
| Dec. 17 | at New York Jets | W, 10-7 |
| Dec. 24 | CHICAGO | L, 20-23 |

**Running Backs** Stewart has cushioned the blow of Barry Sanders' unexpected retirement in 1999. Although Stewart doesn't possess Sanders' elusiveness—who does?—his powerful, consistent running compensates somewhat for Batch's shortcomings. And make no mistake: Stewart is capable of taking over a game the same way Sanders did. In a critical win at Tampa in Week 8 last season, he shredded the vaunted Buccaneers defense, running for three TDs and 116 yards.

In Cory Schlesinger, the Lions have one of the NFL's most underrated fullbacks; the six-year pro is unsurpassed as a blocker. The bruising Stewart-Schlesinger combination can literally beat the will to win out of opposing defenses.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Germane Crowell, Johnnie Morton, Herman Moore and tight end David Sloan are a first-class set of receivers, but their talents have been wasted. If the Lions had a QB with any kind of arm, this corps would post stats like the Rams' receivers.

Moore, who was asked to take a pay cut to clear cap space, was a no-show at the team's first minicamp. He reportedly was agreeable to re-negotiating his contract, but not to playing 2001 for $1 million, which is what the Lions were offering. With Moore's status in limbo, the Lions spoke to Jerry Rice, who drew interest from other teams as well. Either Moore or Rice would be a solid complement to the speedier Crowell and Morton.

Sloan, a Lion for his full six-year career, is a sturdy run blocker who will

## 2000 LIONS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 276.4 (27) | 109.2 (20) | 167.2 (25) | 19.2 (22) | 15 (9t) | 14 (25t) | 3.9 (20t) | 10.8 (24t) | 53 (26t) | 264 (24) | 32.1 (28) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 314.6 (14) | 113.9 (17t) | 200.6 (15) | 19.2 (11) | 14 (20t) | 16 (8) | 4.3 (21t) | 10.8 (5t) | 28 (26) | 25 (3t) | 11 (7) |

## 2001 LIONS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | Batch, Charlie | 6'2" | 220 | 26 | 3 | Eastern Mich. |
| 9 | Harbaugh, Jim | 6'3" | 215 | 37 | 14 | Michigan |
| 8 | McMahon, Mike | 6'2" | 213 | 22 | R | Rutgers |
| 16 | Sauter, Cory | 6'4" | 215 | 26 | 2 | Minnesota |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | Droughns, Reuben | 5'11" | 207 | 23 | 2 | Oregon |
| 33 | Irvin, Sedrick | 5'11" | 226 | 23 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 31 | Lee, Amp | 6'0" | 200 | 29 | 10 | Florida State |
| 26 | Olivo, Brock (FB) | 6'0" | 232 | 25 | 4 | Missouri |
| 30 | Schlesinger, Cory (FB) | 6'0" | 246 | 29 | 6 | Nebraska |
| 34 | Stewart, James | 6'1" | 226 | 29 | 6 | Tennessee |
| 36 | Trejo, Stephen (FB) | 6'2" | 258 | 23 | R | Arizona State |
| 25 | Warren, Lamont | 5'11" | 202 | 28 | 6 | Colorado State |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18 | Anderson, Scotty | 6'2" | 184 | 21 | R | Grambling |
| 89 | Banta, Brad (TE) | 6'6" | 255 | 30 | 8 | USC |
| 82 | Crowell, Germane | 6'3" | 216 | 24 | 3 | Virginia |
| 17 | Foster, Larry | 5'10" | 196 | 24 | 2 | LSU |
| 11 | Gaddis, Versie | 5'10" | 187 | 24 | R | Indiana |
| 80 | Howard, Desmond | 5'10" | 185 | 31 | 9 | Michigan |
| 44 | Jackson, Khary (TE) | 6'2" | 256 | 24 | R | Oklahoma St. |
| 15 | Johnson, Sly | 5'9" | 182 | 21 | R | Miami (Ohio) |
| 48 | Mitchell, Pete (TE) | 6'2" | 248 | 29 | 6 | Boston College |
| 84 | Moore, Herman | 6'4" | 224 | 31 | 10 | Virginia |
| 87 | Morton, Johnnie | 6'0" | 190 | 29 | 7 | USC |
| 49 | Natkin, Brian (TE) | 6'2" | 246 | 23 | R | UTEP |
| 86 | Sloan, David (TE) | 6'6" | 260 | 29 | 6 | New Mexico |
| 83 | Stablein, Brian | 6'1" | 194 | 30 | 8 | Ohio State |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 74 | Atkins, James (T) | 6'6" | 306 | 31 | 8 | SW Louisiana |
| 76 | Backus, Jeff (T) | 6'5" | 308 | 23 | R | Michigan |
| 79 | Beverly, Eric (C) | 6'3" | 294 | 27 | 3 | Miami (Ohio) |
| 65 | Blaise, Kerlin (G) | 6'5" | 323 | 26 | 3 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 61 | Cuthbert, Will (T) | 6'4" | 333 | 22 | R | Alabama |
| 71 | Gibson, Aaron (T) | 6'4" | 380 | 23 | 3 | Wisconsin |
| 75 | Joyce, Matt (G) | 6'7" | 307 | 29 | 7 | Richmond |
| 63 | Kroeker, Dustin (T) | 6'5" | 290 | 22 | R | Cal-Poly SLO |
| 73 | McDougle, Stockar (T) | 6'6" | 350 | 24 | 1 | Oklahoma |
| 51 | Raiola, Dominic (C) | 6'1" | 303 | 22 | R | Nebraska |
| 62 | Semple, Tony (G) | 6'5" | 303 | 30 | 7 | Memphis |
| 66 | Stai, Brenden (G) | 6'5" | 303 | 29 | 7 | Nebraska |
| 64 | Taupule, Raymond (T) | 6'3" | 343 | 21 | R | West Texas A&M |
| 70 | Vincent, Andy (T) | 6'4" | 306 | 23 | 1 | Texas A&M |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 90 | Childers, Matt (E) | 5'11" | 188 | 22 | R | USC |
| 95 | DeVries, Jared (E) | 6'4" | 280 | 25 | 2 | Iowa |
| 94 | Elliss, Luther (E) | 6'5" | 305 | 28 | 6 | Utah |
| 69 | Golliday, Toby (T) | 6'1" | 238 | 23 | R | Mississippi St. |
| 63 | Hall, James (E) | 6'2" | 271 | 24 | 2 | Michigan |
| 68 | Herron, Anthony (E) | 6'3" | 279 | 21 | R | Iowa |
| 98 | Jones, James (T) | 6'2" | 295 | 32 | 10 | Northern Iowa |
| 67 | Kirschke, Travis (T) | 6'3" | 287 | 26 | 4 | UCLA |
| 91 | Porcher, Robert (E) | 6'3" | 282 | 32 | 9 | S. Carolina St. |
| 91 | Rogers, Shaun (T) | 6'4" | 331 | 22 | R | Texas |
| 97 | Scroggins, Tracy (E) | 6'3" | 273 | 31 | 9 | Tulsa |
| 99 | Wilson, Eric (T) | 6'3" | 287 | 23 | R | Michigan |
| 61 | Yancy, Quincy (E) | 6'7" | 270 | 23 | R | Arizona State |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | Aldridge, Allen | 6'1" | 254 | 29 | 8 | Houston |
| 57 | Boyd, Stephen | 6'0" | 242 | 29 | 6 | Boston College |
| 50 | Claiborne, Chris | 6'3" | 255 | 23 | 2 | USC |
| 59 | Glenn, Jason | 6'0" | 231 | 21 | R | Texas A&M |
| 54 | Green, Barrett | 6'0" | 217 | 23 | 2 | West Virginia |
| 52 | Kowalkowski, Scott | 6'2" | 220 | 33 | 10 | Notre Dame |
| 58 | Kriewaldt, Clint | 6'1" | 236 | 25 | 3 | Wis.-Stevens Point |
| 41 | Offing, Andre | 6'0" | 240 | 24 | R | South Carolina |
| 49 | Robinson, Darnell | 6'0" | 225 | 23 | R | Oregon State |
| 53 | Rogers, Wayne | 6'1" | 232 | 23 | R | Houston |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 39 | Campbell, Lamar | 5'11" | 183 | 25 | 3 | Wisconsin |
| 38 | Clinton, Eugene | 5'11" | 187 | 24 | R | Mississippi St. |
| 23 | Fair, Terry | 5'9" | 184 | 25 | 3 | Tennessee |
| 42 | Iwuoma, Chidi | 5'8" | 183 | 23 | R | California |
| 43 | Jennings, Ligarius | 5'9" | 202 | 23 | R | Tennessee St. |
| 24 | Lyght, Todd | 6'0" | 190 | 32 | 11 | Notre Dame |
| 46 | Malloy, Donald | 5'9" | 181 | 24 | R | New Mexico St. |
| 47 | Ordway, Jonathan | 5'9" | 177 | 22 | R | Boston College |
| 28 | Rice, Ron | 6'1" | 217 | 28 | 6 | Eastern Mich. |
| 45 | Schulz, Kurt | 6'1" | 208 | 32 | 9 | Eastern Wash. |
| 29 | Supernaw, Kywin | 6'1" | 207 | 26 | 3 | Indiana |
| 41 | Walker, Darnell | 5'8" | 168 | 31 | 8 | Oklahoma |
| 38 | Walker, Marquis | 5'10" | 175 | 29 | 5 | SE Missouri |
| 32 | Westbrook, Bryant | 6'0" | 198 | 26 | 4 | Texas |
| 35 | Wyrick, Jimmy | 5'9" | 179 | 24 | 1 | Minnesota |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Cottrell, Keith (P) | 6'3" | 207 | 22 | R | Florida State |
| 4 | Hanson, Jason (K) | 5'11" | 182 | 31 | 9 | Washington St. |
| 19 | Jett, John (P) | 6'0" | 197 | 32 | 8 | East Carolina |

catch what's thrown to him. Detroit added ex-Giant Pete Mitchell to primarily catch passes.

**Offensive Line** In the NFC last year, only the Atlanta Falcons and Carolina Panthers gave up more sacks than Detroit's 53. It's little wonder, then, that the new management team's first order of business was to rebuild the offensive line. Detroit's top two draft picks—tackle Jeff Backus and center Dominic Raiola—are blue-chippers who should start immediately.

And while the Lions' best lineman last year, guard Jeff Hartings, departed via free agency, he was replaced by the steady Brenden Stai. Detroit also signed 6'7", 307-pound Matt Joyce, formerly of the Cardinals, meaning Stockar McDougle could be the only holdover to start come September.

Still, chemistry is the key to success for any offensive line, and with so many new pieces, it could take at least half the season for these guys to get in sync.

*James Stewart*

**Defensive Line** One stat tells you just about everything you need to know about Detroit's defensive line: Since 1996, Robert Porcher has averaged more sacks per season (11.6) than future Hall of Famer Bruce Smith (10.8). It doesn't end there, though. Luther Elliss and James Jones—all 600 pounds of them—clog the middle as effectively as any defensive tackle duo in the Central, tying up blockers for Porcher. As much as any one unit, Porcher and mates kept Detroit in the playoff hunt last season. The Lions bolstered the line by re-signing Tracy Scroggins, another solid pass rusher to complement Porcher.

**Linebackers** You won't find any holes here. The leader is Stephen Boyd, who went to the Pro Bowl in 2000 for the second time in his six-year career. Mentally tough and adept at dropping back into coverage, Boyd has become one of the league's top five inside linebackers.

Detroit is nearly as strong on the outside. After seven years in the NFL, Allen Aldridge continues to carry his share of the load. And Chris Claiborne, a third-year pro, may eventually rise to Boyd's status.

**Defensive Backs** Cornerback is something of a question mark. After getting off to a slow start in the NFL, 1997 first-round pick Bryant Westbrook finally came into his own last season with six picks. But then he blew out his Achilles tendon late in the year, creating doubts about his future.

Compounding the secondary problems, the retirement of Kevin Abrams robs Detroit of depth. The Lions did sign free agent Todd Lyght, but after 10 seasons, he may not have much left in the tank.

The premier player in Detroit's secondary is free safety Kurt Schulz. Despite being injured part of last season, he tied for third in the league with seven picks.

**Special Teams** The Lions boast the best special teams in the Central, which could be a saving grace if the offense sputters again. Desmond Howard remains a returner extrordinaire. Last season he averaged 14.7 yards per punt return (including one score) and 26.6 yards per kick return, consistently giving the Lions optimal field position. Kicker Jason Hanson has been a mainstay in Detroit for nearly a decade, and the only NFC Central punter better than John Jett is Viking Mitch Berger.

**Management** Millen displayed his vast football knowledge as an analyst for Fox, but he has stepped into a very different role as president of the Lions. With no previous experience as a team executive, his learning curve could be steep. And while Mornhinweg worked wonders last year as San Francisco's offensive coordinator, he too has entered uncharted territory. At least Tobin is a known commodity. He was the architect of the Indianapolis Colts team that went to the AFC title game in 1995.

These guys may well have what it takes to push Detroit to the next level—they certainly got off to a good start in the draft—but it is too soon to tell.

*—William Wagner*

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Detroit won't go anywhere this season unless Charlie Batch begins to come of age as a quarterback. That might be too much to ask.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

The Lions get down to business right away, playing the Packers at Lambeau in the opener. A win could set the tone for the entire season.

### KEY STAT

The Lions generated only 14 passing touchdowns last year, inexcusable for a team with so many good wideouts.

### GLUE GUY

Defensive end Robert Porcher doesn't get a lot of national pub, but he's beloved in Detroit's locker room. He has held the D together for years.

***Robert Porcher***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Jeff Backus | OT, Michigan<br>Was a key cog on the Wolverines' All-World O-line. |
| 2 | Dominic Raiola | C, Nebraska<br>The junior was far and away the best center on the board. |
| 2 | Shaun Rogers | DT, Texas<br>Could be a force if he's able to stay healthy. |
| 5 | Scotty Anderson | WR, Grambling<br>A good athlete who may get overpowered in the pros. |
| 5 | Mike McMahon | QB, Rutgers<br>He's an insurance policy if Batch continues to struggle. |
| 6 | Jason Glenn | LB, Texas A&M<br>A knee injury casts doubt about his NFL future. |

**A⁻** Matt Millen and new head coach Marty Mornhinweg have a plan, and it's based on building a rock of an offensive line. On the heels of a season in which Detroit allowed a whopping 53 sacks—then lost top guard Jeff Hartings to free agency—the Lions hit the jackpot with two NFL-ready studs in Backus and Raiola. Both could start in 2001, and will open holes for James Stewart while helping to keep defensive linemen off quarterback Charlie Batch. Millen and Mornhinweg also showed they are willing to take some chances, drafting Rogers and Glenn, two talents whose injury histories lowered their stock. They also may have grabbed a late-round sleeper in QB McMahon, a chiseled gym rat who played on one of the nation's worst teams.

NFL (PORCHER); JAMIE SQUIRE/ALLSPORT

# Minnesota VIKINGS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Culpepper beats teams every which way. | 7 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Bennett has some mighty big shoes to fill. | 4 |
| **RECEIVERS:** Moss and Carter remain the pride of the Vikings. | 9 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Minnesota's Hogs are down but not out. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Rival QBs will have all day to throw the ball. | 3 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Too bad Culpepper can't also line up here. | 4 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Too few playmakers to save the defense. | 4 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** A first-class returner is sorely needed. | 6 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Lesson No. 1: Never count out Dennis Green. | 7 |
| **OVERALL:** Teams simply cannot win without a defense. | 5.5 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**4th in NFC Central**

## VIKINGS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dennis Green (96-60 with Minnesota)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Daunte Culpepper | 297-474, 3,927 yds, 33 TDs |
| RB | Michael Bennett (R) | 310 car, 1,681 yds, 11 TDs* |
| FB | Jim Kleinsasser | 12 car, 43 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Byron Chamberlain (DEN) | 22 rec, 283 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | Randy Moss | 77 rec, 1,437 yds, 15 TDs |
| WR | Cris Carter | 96 rec, 1,274 yds, 9 TDs |
| LT | Brad Badger | 16 games, 0 starts |
| LG | Chris Liwienski | 14 games, 1 start |
| C | Matt Birk | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | David Dixon | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Korey Stringer | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Lance Johnstone (OAK) | 31 tackles, 3.5 sacks |
| DT | Chris Hovan | 48 tackles, 2 sacks |
| DT | Willie Howard (R) | 52 tackes, 5 sacks* |
| DE | Talance Sawyer | 37 tackles, 6 sacks |
| LB | Lemanski Hall | 9 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Kailee Wong | 111 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Ed McDaniel | 119 tackles, 2 sacks |
| CB | Eric Kelly (R) | 32 tackles, 1 INT* |
| CB | Robert Tate | 69 tackles, 2 INTs |
| SS | Robert Griffith | 104 tackles, 1 INT |
| FS | Tyrone Carter | 38 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Gary Anderson | 45-45 XPs, 22-23 FGs |
| P | Mitch Berger | 62 punts, 44.7 avg |
| KR | Troy Walters | 30 KR, 23.1 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Nate Jacquet | 30 PR, 7.0 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

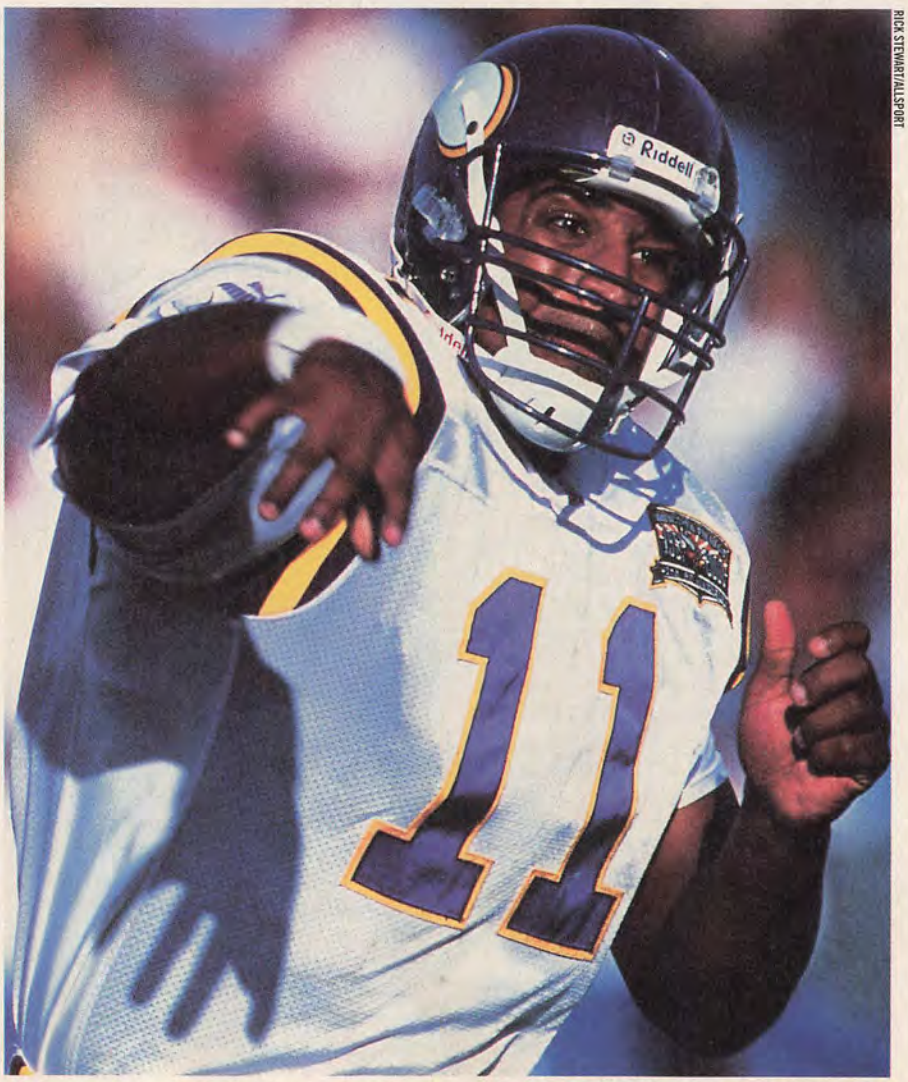
Charlie Baggett, WRs; Brian Baker, DL; Dean Dalton, off. asst.; Carl Hargrave, RBs; Chuck Knox Jr., LBs; Sherman Lewis, offensive coordinator; Willie Shaw, DBs; Richard Solomon, LBs; Emmitt Thomas, defensive coordinator; Mike Tice, OL; John Tice, TEs; Trent Walters, def. asst.; Steve Wetzel, strength and conditioning; Alex Wood, QBs; Gary Zauner, special teams

# Key player defections halt Green's magic act

Does Dennis Green have yet another rabbit stashed in that purple cap of his?

Last year, as in most years, he proved to be quite the magician. After the offseason departures of quarterbacks Randall Cunningham and Jeff George, offensive linemen Randall McDaniel and Jeff Christy, power runner Leroy Hoard, receiver Jake Reed, cornerback Jimmy Hitchcock and defensive end Duane Clemons, the Vikings were expected to fall off the NFL map. Instead, they were one of the season's most surprising success stories, winning the NFC Central title with an 11-5 record.

This year, though, perhaps even the great Houdini would have difficulty turning the Vikings into something special. If you thought the bloodletting was bad last off-season, check out what's happened in 2001: Running back Robert Smith unexpectedly retired, while defensive tackle John Randle, left offensive tackle Todd Steussie and outside linebacker Dwayne Rudd left town because of a salary-cap crunch. Smith, Randle and Steussie all were Pro




RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT

*Culpepper, who took the league by storm, may be exposed without top rusher Smith.*

Bowlers, while Rudd played near that level at times.

So, is Green worried? Heck no. Dennis Green doesn't get worried—he simply forges ahead. The truth is, betting against the unflappable coach is risky business (in the regular season, anyway). Since taking over the Vikings in 1992, he has missed the playoffs only once.

But eventually, the massive personnel losses have to catch up with even Green. Just look at what happened to the once-proud Pittsburgh Steelers, whose roster ultimately succumbed to a steady stream of free-agent defections in the years following their 1995 Super Bowl season.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | CAROLINA | 1:00 |
| Sept. 17 | at Baltimore | 9:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Chicago | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | at New Orleans | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | DETROIT | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | GREEN BAY | 4:15 |
| Oct. 28 | at Tampa Bay | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 11 | at Philadelphia | 4:15 |
| Nov. 19 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 9:00 |
| Nov. 25 | CHICAGO | 8:30 |
| Dec. 2 | at Pittsburgh | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | TENNESSEE | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Detroit | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | JACKSONVILLE | 4:15 |
| Dec. 30 | at Green Bay | 1:00 |

HHH METRODOME (64,121)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
### 11-5, 1st in NFC CENTRAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | CHICAGO | W, 30-27 |
| Sept. 10 | MIAMI | W, 13-7 |
| Sept. 17 | at New England | W, 21-13 |
| Oct. 1 | at Detroit | W, 31-24 |
| Oct. 9 | TAMPA BAY | W, 30-23 |
| Oct. 15 | at Chicago | W, 28-16 |
| Oct. 22 | BUFFALO | W, 31-27 |
| Oct. 29 | at Tampa Bay | L, 13-41 |
| Nov. 6 | at Green Bay | L, 20-26 |
| Nov. 12 | ARIZONA | W, 31-14 |
| Nov. 19 | CAROLINA | W, 31-17 |
| Nov. 23 | at Dallas | W, 27-15 |
| Nov. 30 | DETROIT | W, 24-17 |
| Dec. 10 | at St. Louis | L, 29-40 |
| Dec. 17 | GREEN BAY | L, 28-33 |
| Dec. 24 | at Indianapolis | L, 10-31 |
| Jan. 6 | NEW ORLEANS | #W, 34-16 |
| Jan. 14 | at New York Giants | §L, 0-41 |

# NFC Divisional Playoff,
§ NFC Championship

**Quarterbacks** Daunte Culpepper, Minnesota's first pick in 1999, entered last season having thrown exactly zero passes in the NFL. No experience? No problem. By year's end, he had established himself as the most intriguing young signal-caller in the game, throwing for 3,937 yards, running for 470, and producing 40 touchdowns (33 with his arm, seven with his legs).

The NFL has never seen anything quite like Culpepper. He has the bulk of a linebacker (6'4", 260 pounds), the moves of a running back and the arm of John Elway.

However, what was largely overlooked in Culpepper's rapid rise to stardom was the comfort zone Smith gave him. Smith's explosive running and pass catching out of the backfield prevented teams from homing in on Culpepper and his vaunted set of receivers. A young QB couldn't ask for a more ideal situation. But with Smith no longer around, Culpepper's inexperience could be exposed. While his long-term prospects are boundless, don't be surprised if Culpepper takes a small step backward this year.

**Running Backs** The impact Smith had on the offense can't be overstated. But Smith always has marched to the beat of a different drummer, and weary of all the injuries he suffered during his eight-year career, he decided to quit while he was ahead.

The Vikings were totally unprepared for his abrupt exit and had no choice but to draft Michael Bennett with their first pick. Bennett has a tremendous upside—most notably his world-class speed—but he is a raw prospect who probably won't be able to step right in and do what Smith did for the Vikings. Still, he's a more explosive option than fellow backs Doug Chapman and Moe Williams. Right now, the biggest plus in the backfield is Jim Kleinsasser, who is rapidly developing into a sledgehammer at fullback.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Minnesota's receiver corps is surpassed only by that of the St. Louis Rams. Although Randy Moss has to learn to keep his mouth shut off the field—his disparaging remarks about his team following last season's playoff loss to the New York Giants were inappropriate—he is unparalleled on it. Moss has averaged a whopping 14.3 touchdowns per season

## 2000 VIKINGS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 372.6 (5) | 133.1 (6) | 239.5 (7) | 24.8 (5) | 14 (12t) | 33 (2t) | 5.0 (1) | 13.1 (2) | 35 (13t) | 319 (7) | 46.0 (3) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 356.3 (28) | 111.8 (15) | 244.6 (28) | 23.2 (24) | 17 (25t) | 23 (17t) | 4.5 (26t) | 11.2 (10t) | 31 (23) | 8 (31) | -10 (26t) |

## 2001 VIKINGS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | Bouman, Todd | 6'2" | 231 | 29 | 4 | St. Cloud State |
| 5 | Cockerham, Billy | 6'1" | 217 | 24 | R | Minnesota |
| 11 | Culpepper, Daunte | 6'4" | 266 | 24 | 3 | Central Florida |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23 | Bennett, Michael | 5'9" | 204 | 23 | R | Wisconsin |
| 34 | Chapman, Doug | 5'10" | 211 | 24 | 2 | Marshall |
| 40 | Kleinsasser, Jimmy (FB) | 6'3" | 279 | 24 | 3 | North Dakota |
| 33 | Morrow, Harold | 5'11" | 229 | 28 | 6 | Auburn |
| 21 | Williams, Moe | 6'1" | 203 | 27 | 6 | Kentucky |
| 44 | Wofford, James | 6'0" | 200 | 23 | R | UNLV |
| 75 | Young, Antwone (FB) | 6'2" | 270 | 24 | R | San Diego St. |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 80 | Carter, Cris | 6'3" | 208 | 35 | 15 | Ohio State |
| 48 | Cercone, Matt (TE) | 6'5" | 261 | 25 | 1 | Arizona State |
| 87 | Chamberlain, Byron (TE) | 6'1" | 242 | 29 | 7 | Wayne St. (Neb.) |
| 83 | Jacquet, Nate | 6'0" | 185 | 25 | 5 | San Diego St. |
| 13 | James, Cedric | 6'2" | 207 | 22 | R | TCU |
| 85 | Jordan, Andrew (TE) | 6'6" | 263 | 29 | 7 | Western Carolina |
| 19 | Kent, Joey | 6'1" | 191 | 27 | 5 | Tennessee |
| 49 | Kostrewa, Jeff (TE) | 6'5" | 255 | 23 | R | Wis.-La Crosse |
| 18 | Mitchell, Lonny | 6'1" | 200 | 24 | R | San Diego St. |
| 84 | Moss, Randy | 6'4" | 198 | 24 | 4 | Marshall |
| 86 | Reed, Jake | 6'3" | 216 | 33 | 11 | Grambling |
| 62 | Solwold, Mike (TE) | 6'6" | 236 | 23 | R | Wisconsin |
| 82 | Walters, Troy | 5'7" | 174 | 24 | 2 | Stanford |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 74 | Badger, Brad (G) | 6'4" | 312 | 26 | 5 | Stanford |
| 78 | Birk, Matt (T) | 6'4" | 316 | 25 | 4 | Harvard |
| 65 | Comeaux, Oscar (T) | 6'4" | 275 | 23 | R | NW State-La. |
| 73 | Crawford, Brian (T) | 6'8" | 315 | 23 | R | Western Oregon |
| 71 | Dixon, David (G) | 6'5" | 358 | 32 | 8 | Arizona State |
| 67 | Humphrey, Jay (T) | 6'6" | 313 | 25 | 2 | Texas |
| 61 | Kelly, Lewis (G) | 6'4" | 272 | 24 | 1 | S. Carolina St. |
| 76 | Liwienski, Chris (T) | 6'5" | 332 | 26 | 3 | Indiana |
| 69 | Malano, Mike (G) | 6'2" | 299 | 24 | 1 | San Diego St. |
| 57 | Palmer, Mitch (C) | 6'4" | 259 | 27 | 4 | Colorado State |
| 77 | Stringer, Korey (T) | 6'4" | 346 | 27 | 7 | Ohio State |
| 68 | Waddell, Bennitte (T) | 6'6" | 310 | 24 | R | Tuskegee |
| 60 | Withrow, Cory (C) | 6'2" | 288 | 26 | 2 | Washington St. |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 96 | Boireau, Michael (E) | 6'3" | 274 | 23 | 1 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 79 | Garnett, Winfield (T) | 6'6" | 309 | 25 | R | Ohio State |
| 72 | Hazuga, Jeff (E) | 6'5" | 270 | 23 | R | Wis.-Stout |
| 51 | Johnstone, Lance (E) | 6'4" | 260 | 28 | 6 | Temple |
| 99 | Hovan, Chris (T) | 6'2" | 305 | 23 | 2 | Boston College |
| 91 | Howard, Willie (T) | 6'3" | 298 | 23 | R | Stanford |
| 98 | Robbins, Fred (T) | 6'4" | 310 | 24 | 2 | Wake Forest |
| 90 | Northern, Gabe (E) | 6'3" | 262 | 27 | 6 | LSU |
| 97 | Sawyer, Talance (E) | 6'2" | 268 | 25 | 3 | UNLV |
| 92 | Smith, Fernando (E) | 6'6" | 287 | 30 | 7 | Jackson State |
| 95 | Worthen, Shawn (T) | 6'0" | 306 | 22 | R | TCU |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | Chukwurah, Patrick | 6'1" | 238 | 22 | R | Wyoming |
| 55 | Hall, Lemanski | 6'0" | 241 | 30 | 7 | Alabama |
| 58 | McDaniel, Ed | 5'11" | 230 | 32 | 10 | Clemson |
| 56 | Nelson, Jim | 6'1" | 238 | 26 | 3 | Penn State |
| 66 | Paga, Shaun | 6'1" | 240 | 23 | R | California |
| 59 | Sauer, Craig | 6'1" | 241 | 28 | 6 | Minnesota |
| 54 | Wilson, Antonio | 6'1" | 244 | 23 | 2 | Texas A&M-Com. |
| 52 | Wong, Kailee | 6'2" | 247 | 25 | 4 | Stanford |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | Carter, Tyrone | 5'8" | 186 | 25 | 2 | Minnesota |
| 24 | Griffith, Robert | 5'11" | 199 | 30 | 8 | San Diego St. |
| 25 | Kelly, Eric | 5'10" | 199 | 24 | R | Kentucky |
| 46 | Kidd, Carl | 6'1" | 205 | 28 | 2 | Arkansas |
| 31 | Morgan, Don | 5'11" | 198 | 25 | 2 | Nevada-Reno |
| 32 | Russell, Brian | 6'2" | 205 | 23 | R | San Diego St. |
| 41 | Scott, Carey | 5'11" | 208 | 22 | R | Kentucky St. |
| 29 | Serwanga, Wasswa | 5'11" | 190 | 25 | 3 | UCLA |
| 28 | Tate, Robert | 5'10" | 192 | 28 | 5 | Cincinnati |
| 42 | Thomas, Orlando | 6'1" | 222 | 29 | 7 | La.-Lafayette |
| 20 | Wright, Kenny | 6'1" | 205 | 23 | 3 | NW State-La. |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Anderson, Gary (K) | 5'11" | 184 | 42 | 20 | Syracuse |
| 17 | Berger, Mitch (P) | 6'4" | 228 | 29 | 6 | Colorado |
| 6 | Matich, John (K) | 6'2" | 208 | 23 | R | Boston College |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Defensive tackle Chris Hovan showed a lot of promise as a rookie last year. With John Randle and Dwayne Rudd gone, he has to be a leader.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

The Vikings play the Giants at home on Monday, Nov. 19. After the NFC title game disaster, the entire state of Minnesota wants revenge.

### KEY STAT

Robert Smith accounted for 31% of Minnesota's offense in 2000, a tall order for Smith's replacement, Michael Bennett.

### GLUE GUY

Randy Moss and Daunte Culpepper wouldn't be the players they are without Cris Carter's guidance. Carter means everything to the Vikings.

***Chris Hovan***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Michael Bennett** RB, Wisconsin
Burner started just 10 games as a Badger.

2 **Willie Howard** DT, Stanford
Knee injury makes talented ex-Cardinal a gamble.

3 **Eric Kelly** CB, Kentucky
He has the speed to bolster a weak position.

4 **Shawn Worthen** DT, TCU
May not possess NFL-caliber athleticism.

4 **Cedric James** WR, TCU
A raw prospect, but he won't be rushed into action.

5 **Patrick Chuckwurah** LB, Wyoming
Athleticism isn't a problem, but instincts could be.

6 **Carey Scott** CB, Kentucky State
Yet another unpolished player for the Vikes.

7 **Brian Crawford** OT, Western Oregon
Great size (6'8", 315), but small-school background hurts.

**B⁻** This could go down in Vikings history as a great draft … or it could be a bummer. Minnesota rolled the dice on several outstanding athletes—Bennett, Chuckwurah, James, Scott—who have yet to demonstrate all-around NFL skills. Dennis Green, a proponent of going offense in the first round, thought about drafting Texas defensive tackle Shaun Rogers but changed his mind right before the pick, supposedly in part because Vikes owner Red McCombs had cold feet about taking Rogers over Bennett. Will that decision burn the Vikes?

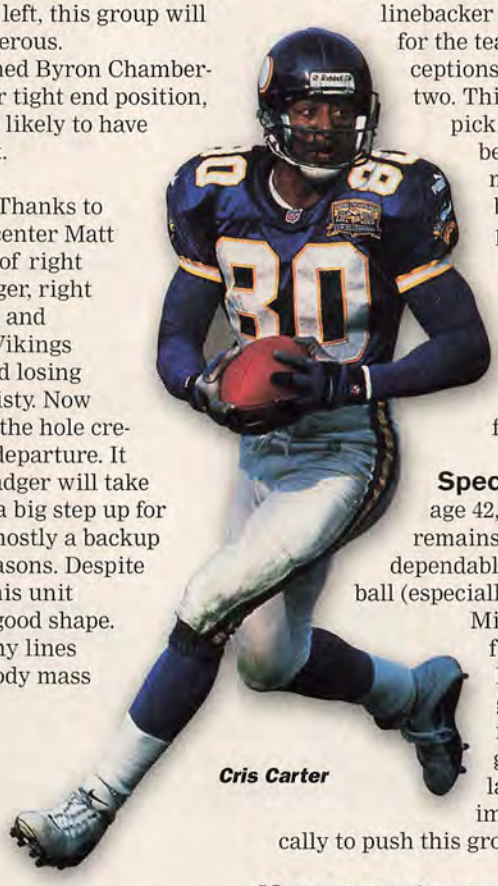
since arriving in the NFL in 1998—and touchdowns, of course, are the name of the game.

Cris Carter has said the 2001 season will be his last, which means Minnesota has to brace for yet another blow. In the meantime, the Vikings still have a future Hall of Famer who remains at the peak of his powers. Carter is like an extra coach for the Vikings. He, nearly as much as Green, has held the team together through good times and bad.

Reed is back after a season on the New Orleans Saints. He has been cut down by injuries the past few years, but if he has anything left, this group will be even more dangerous.

The Vikings signed Byron Chamberlain to bolster their tight end position, but that move isn't likely to have much of an impact.

**Offensive Line** Thanks to the emergence of center Matt Birk and the work of right tackle Korey Stringer, right guard David Dixon and Steussie, the 2000 Vikings somehow withstood losing McDaniel and Christy. Now they have to patch the hole created by Steussie's departure. It looks as if Brad Badger will take over at left tackle, a big step up for a guy who's been mostly a backup in his four NFL seasons. Despite all the upheaval, this unit remains in pretty good shape. You won't find many lines with more sheer body mass than Minnesota's.



***Cris Carter***

**Defensive Line** Sure, the 33-year-old Randle was fading fast, but he still was the best defensive lineman the Vikings had. The team registered a laughable 31 sacks last year, and Randle, who signed with Seattle, accounted for eight of those. For this anemic unit to have even a fighting chance in 2001, it needs a career year from free-agent signee, end Lance Johnstone—and even that probably wouldn't be enough. Defensive tackle Chris Hovan is the only real bright spot. The spirited 6'2", 305-pounder was one of last season's top defensive rookies.

**Linebackers** Like Randle, Rudd was one of Minnesota's few defensive playmakers, but he too is nothing but a memory. The Vikings were able to re-sign middle linebacker Kailee Wong, a four-year veteran on the cusp of stardom. Minnesota also has outside linebacker Ed McDaniel, who's 32 but productive. Wong and McDaniel will have to carry a heavy load because the unit is short on depth and experience.

**Defensive Backs** Strong safety Robert Griffith, a Pro Bowler last year, is the best player remaining on Minnesota's defense, and cornerback Robert Tate is a relatively solid starter. But there isn't much else here. How deficient was this unit last year when it came to making big plays? A linebacker (Wong) tied Tate for the team lead in interceptions, with a meager two. Third-round draft pick Eric Kelly may be a difference-making cornerback at some point, but probably not this year. Rookie corners often experience a painful period of adjustment before catching on.

**Special Teams** At age 42, Gary Anderson remains one of the most dependable kickers in football (especially indoors), while Mitch Berger is a first-class punter. But the return game, which didn't produce a single touchdown last year, needs to improve dramatically to push this group over the top.

**Management** Green now is lord of the realm, with final say over personnel matters. But given the roster turmoil in recent years, one wonders if he's taken on more than he can handle.

There's also that little matter of the playoffs. While Green is a master of reaching the postseason, he doesn't seem to know what to do once he gets there, as evidenced by his 4-8 record. Last season's 41-0 embarrassment against the Giants in the NFC title game was one of the low points in franchise history. Some have said Green and his staff should have been summarily dismissed following that debacle. This year, Green may not have to worry about any disappointing playoff losses.

*—William Wagner*

NFL (HOVAN); ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

# More Bad News Bears than Midway Monsters

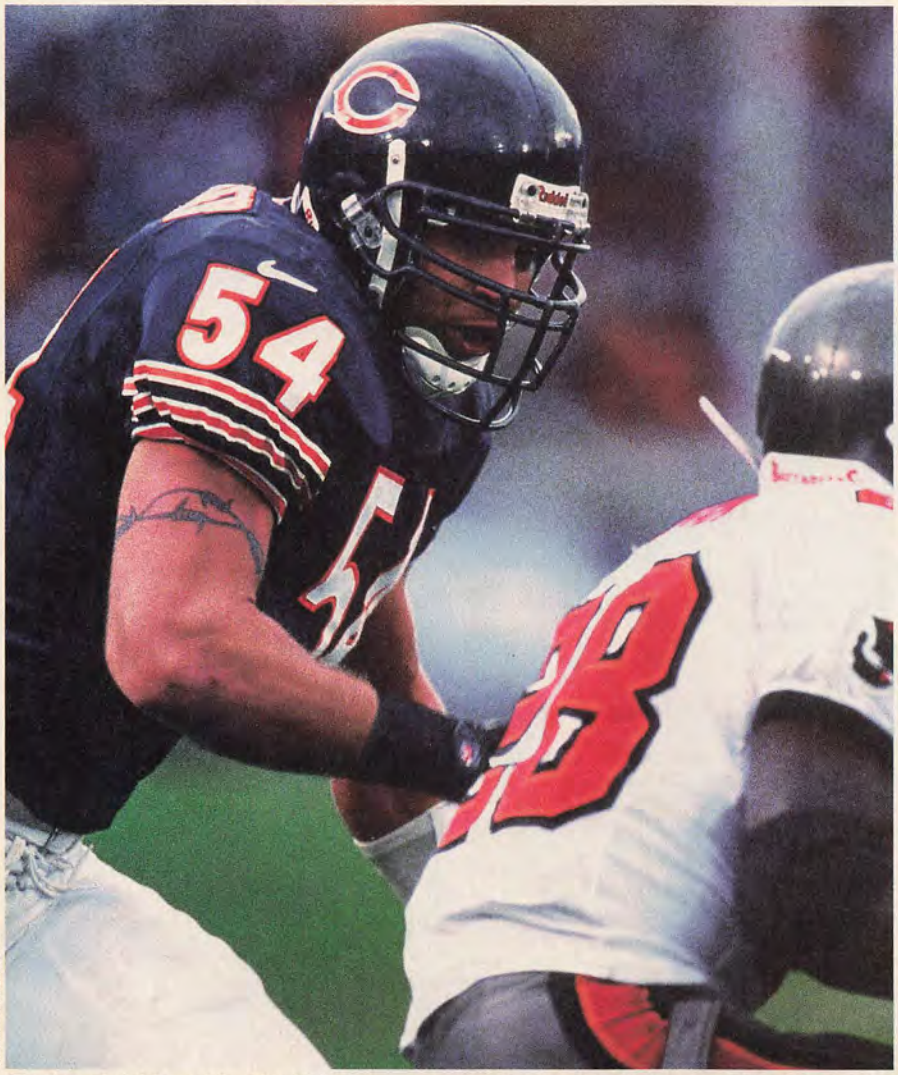
What a mess on the Midway. Survey the landscape, and you'll see Chicago Bears coach Dick Jauron's rebuilding plan looks more like a demolition project.

Consider the following: In Jauron's two seasons on the job, he has produced 11 victories, or four fewer than the Bears had in their Super Bowl-winning 1985 campaign alone.

Second, quarterback Cade McNown—the team's first pick in the 1999 draft—has been called Ryan Leaf without the talent. Anyone who has charted Leaf's tumultuous career knows how damning that statement is.

Third, running back Curtis Enis—the team's first pick in the 1998 draft—rushed for a total of 1,497 yards in his three years in Chicago. The man who was supposed to evoke memories of Walter Payton was cut by the Bears following last season. Then the 24-year-old Enis retired this spring, citing a degenerative knee problem.

Want more? The Bears spent $25 million last year to sign defensive end Phillip Daniels and strengthen a toothless



JONATHAN DANIEL/ALLSPORT

***The lone bright spot for the 2000 Bears was Urlacher's emergence as a defensive force.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** How long will the McClown era last? | **3** |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Neither Allen nor Thomas is a franchise back. | **5** |
| **RECEIVERS:** Health issues could cloud the picture. | **5** |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Blocking for Cade's not easy, but they do O.K. | **5** |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** It's rebuilt and ready to rev things up. | **6** |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Urlacher the head-knocker will carry the day. | **6** |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** All the question marks are at cornerback. | **5** |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Maynard will earn his paycheck every week. | **4** |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Does anyone know who's running the show? | **4** |
| **OVERALL:** QB controversies will be Chicago's undoing. | **4** |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**5th in NFC Central**

## BEARS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dick Jauron (11-21 with Chicago)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Cade McNown | 154-280, 1,646 yds, 8 TDs |
| RB | Anthony Thomas (R) | 319 car, 1,733 yds, 18 TDs* |
| FB | James Allen | 290 car, 1,120 yds, 2 TDs |
| TE | Kaseem Sinceno | 23 rec, 206 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Marcus Robinson | 55 rec, 738 yds, 5 TDs |
| WR | David Terrell (R) | 67 rec, 1,130 yds, 14 TDs* |
| LT | Blake Brockermeyer | 15 games, 14 starts |
| LG | Rex Tucker | 6 games, 0 starts |
| C | Olin Kreutz | 7 games, 7 starts |
| RG | Chris Villarrial | 16 games, 15 starts |
| RT | James Williams | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Bryan Robinson | 51 tackles, 4.5 sacks |
| DT | Ted Washington (BUF) | 58 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| DT | Keith Traylor (DEN) | 37 tackles, 1 sack |
| DE | Phillip Daniels | 42 tackles, 6 sacks |
| LB | Sean Harris | 77 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Brian Urlacher | 123 tackles, 8 sacks |
| LB | Rosevelt Colvin | 34 tackles, 3 sacks |
| CB | Walt Harris | 42 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Thomas Smith | 68 tackles, 0 INTs |
| SS | Tony Parrish | 84 tackles, 3 INTs |
| FS | Mike Brown | 96 tackles, 1 INT |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Paul Edinger | 21-21 XPs, 21-27 FGs |
| P | Brad Maynard (NYG) | 79 punts, 40.6 avg |
| KR | Glyn Milburn | 63 KR, 23.3 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Glyn Milburn | 35 PR, 8.6 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Vance Bedford, DBs; Greg Blache, defensive coordinator; Chuck Bullough, def. asst.; Charlie Coiner, off. asst.; Pat Flaherty, TEs; Todd Haley, WRs; Dale Lindsey, LBs; Earle Mosley, RBs; Rex Norris, DL; Russ Riederer, strength and conditioning; John Shoop, offensive coordinator; Mike Sweatman, special teams; Bob Wiley, OL

pass rush. The hefty investment yielded a team total of 36 sacks (Daniels had six), one fewer than Chicago had in '99.

The good news for Bears fans is that the situation in Chicago can't possibly get much worse. After all, a proud franchise once considered the cornerstone of the NFL has become a laughingstock. And with another year of quarterback controversy, inept offense and curious management on tap, the joking is unlikely to end.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Baltimore | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | JACKSONVILLE | 4:15 |
| Sept. 23 | MINNESOTA | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 7 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | ARIZONA | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Cincinnati | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | GREEN BAY | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at Tampa Bay | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | at Minnesota | 8:30 |
| Dec. 2 | DETROIT | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at Green Bay | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Washington | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Detroit | 1:00 |

SOLDIER FIELD (66,944)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

5-11, 5th in NFC CENTRAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Minnesota | L, 27-30 |
| Sept. 10 | at Tampa Bay | L, 0-41 |
| Sept. 17 | NEW YORK GIANTS | L, 7-14 |
| Sept. 24 | DETROIT | L, 14-21 |
| Oct. 1 | at Green Bay | W, 27-24 |
| Oct. 8 | NEW ORLEANS | L, 10-31 |
| Oct. 15 | MINNESOTA | L, 16-28 |
| Oct. 22 | at Philadelphia | L, 9-13 |
| Nov. 5 | INDIANAPOLIS | W, 27-24 |
| Nov. 12 | at Buffalo | L, 3-20 |
| Nov. 19 | TAMPA BAY | W, 13-10 |
| Nov. 26 | at New York Jets | L, 10-17 |
| Dec. 3 | GREEN BAY | L, 6-28 |
| Dec. 10 | NEW ENGLAND | W, 24-17 |
| Dec. 17 | at San Francisco | L, 0-17 |
| Dec. 24 | at Detroit | W, 23-20 |

**Quarterbacks** Unlike 2000, McNown doesn't enter this season assured of being the starter. Still, there is a sense that team management—always mindful of the financial bottom line—will give its bonus baby every opportunity to make something of himself. Such thinking would tear the Bears apart because McNown doesn't have the support of his teammates. His work habits and attitude have been called into question, as has his ability to even throw a spiral.

The team responds much more positively to Jim Miller and Shane Matthews, each of whom has demonstrated he can run the offense efficiently and, more important, produce victories. Problem is, neither Matthews, who somewhat surprisingly re-signed, nor Miller has been able to stay healthy. Miller is coming off surgery to repair a torn left Achilles tendon. He skipped minicamp but was ahead of schedule and set to return for training camp.

**Running Backs** James Allen certainly can't be counted among the team's many shortcomings. The guy did run for 1,120 yards last season, Chicago's best rushing output since 1989, when Neal Anderson had 1,275. Allen's problem is he found the end zone only twice on carries, and his longest run of the season was a paltry 29 yards. He's not the type of back a team can build around.

Chicago really hopes this year's second-round draft pick, Michigan's Anthony Thomas, is the real deal. He's a grinder like Allen, with a bit more bulk, and is coming off an excellent collegiate career. At press time, the Bears were talking to Skip Hicks, who was dropped by Washington.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The addition of first-round pick David Terrell gives this group a lot of potential. But to fully actualize it, Marcus Robinson and Bobby Engram need to be healthy. Both wideouts suffered injuries last season—Engram blew out a knee, Robinson had a bad back—and questions linger heading into 2001.

The return of Engram is especially important. He's a dependable possession receiver who acts as a security blanket for whichever quarterback happens to be under center. The presence of Engram makes the speedy Robinson—and now the multifaceted Terrell—that much more difficult to counter.

The Bears haven't had a first-rate tight end since the days of Ditka, and it may be a while yet before another one

## 2000 BEARS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 283.8 (23) | 108.5 (21) | 175.3 (23) | 13.5 (28) | 6 (29t) | 12 (28t) | 4.2 (12t) | 9.9 (30) | 34 (10t) | 239 (30) | 30.2 (29) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 327.1 (16) | 114.2 (19) | 212.9 (17) | 22.2 (20) | 15 (23) | 25 (23t) | 3.9 (8t) | 11.0 (7) | 36 (21) | 11 (27) | -9 (23t) |

## 2001 BEARS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Matthews, Shane | 6'3" | 196 | 31 | 8 | Florida |
| 8 | McNown, Cade | 6'1" | 208 | 24 | 2 | UCLA |
| 15 | Miller, Jim | 6'2" | 215 | 30 | 8 | Michigan State |
| 11 | Tolliver, Billy Joe | 6'1" | 217 | 35 | 9 | Texas Tech |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | Allen, James | 5'10" | 215 | 26 | 4 | Oklahoma |
| 32 | Barnes, Marlon | 5'9" | 215 | 25 | 2 | Colorado |
| 45 | Dragos, Scott (FB) | 6'2" | 245 | 25 | 2 | Boston College |
| 38 | Edwards, Brian | 6'1" | 230 | 25 | 1 | East Tenn. St. |
| 24 | Milburn, Glyn | 5'8" | 176 | 30 | 9 | Stanford |
| | Thomas, Anthony | 6'1" | 225 | 22 | R | Michigan |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 84 | Allred, John (TE) | 6'4" | 246 | 26 | 5 | USC |
| 87 | Bates, D'Wayne | 6'2" | 215 | 25 | 3 | Northwestern |
| 49 | Baxter, Fred (TE) | 6'3" | 265 | 30 | 9 | Auburn |
| 48 | Bell, Shonn (TE) | 6'5" | 257 | 26 | 2 | Virginia-Wise |
| 86 | Booker, Marty | 5'11" | 215 | 25 | 3 | NE Louisiana |
| 83 | Brooks, Macey | 6'5" | 215 | 26 | 3 | James Madison |
| | Capel, John | 5'10" | 177 | 22 | R | Florida |
| 81 | Engram, Bobby | 5'10" | 185 | 28 | 6 | Penn State |
| 89 | Lyman, Dustin (TE) | 6'4" | 250 | 25 | 2 | Wake Forest |
| 88 | Robinson, Marcus | 6'3" | 215 | 26 | 5 | South Carolina |
| 85 | Sinceno, Kaseem (TE) | 6'4" | 255 | 25 | 4 | Syracuse |
| | Terrell, David | 6'3" | 213 | 22 | R | Michigan |
| 80 | White, Dez | 6'0" | 219 | 22 | 1 | Georgia Tech |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 78 | Brockermeyer, Blake (T) | 6'4" | 300 | 28 | 7 | Texas |
| | Gandy, Mike (G) | 6'4" | 315 | 23 | R | Notre Dame |
| 74 | Herndon, Jimmy (T) | 6'8" | 318 | 28 | 6 | Houston |
| 57 | Kreutz, Olin (C) | 6'2" | 285 | 24 | 4 | Washington |
| 65 | Mannelly, Patrick (T) | 6'5" | 270 | 26 | 4 | Duke |
| | Bernard Robertson (C-T) | 6'3" | 295 | 23 | R | Tulane |
| 64 | Tucker, Rex (T) | 6'5" | 315 | 24 | 3 | Texas A&M |
| 58 | Villarrial, Chris (C) | 6'4" | 308 | 26 | 6 | Indiana (Pa.) |
| 63 | Williams, Brad (G) | 6'4" | 286 | 23 | 1 | Notre Dame |
| 71 | Williams, James (T) | 6'7" | 331 | 33 | 11 | Cheyney State |
| 68 | Wise, Ty (C) | 6'2" | 291 | 24 | 1 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 79 | Wisne, Jerry (G) | 6'6" | 315 | 25 | 3 | Notre Dame |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 93 | Daniels, Phillip (E) | 6'5" | 290 | 28 | 6 | Georgia |
| 67 | King, Jerome (T) | 6'4" | 280 | 23 | 1 | Louisiana Tech |
| 76 | Maxie, Demetrious (E) | 6'2" | 265 | 27 | R | UTEP |
| 62 | Newkirk, Robert (T) | 6'3" | 290 | 24 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 72 | Powell, Carl (E) | 6'2" | 264 | 27 | 2 | Louisville |
| | Karon Riley (E) | 6'2" | 266 | 23 | R | Minnesota |
| 98 | Robinson, Bryan (E) | 6'4" | 300 | 27 | 5 | Fresno State |
| 96 | Simmons, Clyde (E) | 6'5" | 292 | 37 | 16 | West. Carolina |
| | Smeenge, Joel (E) | 6'6" | 265 | 33 | 11 | West. Michigan |
| 94 | Traylor, Keith (T) | 6'2" | 304 | 31 | 10 | Cent. Oklahoma |
| 90 | Tuinei, Van (E) | 6'4" | 290 | 30 | 5 | Arizona |
| 73 | Wallace, Alonzo (E) | 6'5" | 258 | 27 | 3 | Maryland |
| 92 | Washington, Ted (NT) | 6'5" | 330 | 33 | 11 | Louisville |

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 97 | Wells, Mike (T) | 6'3" | 315 | 30 | 9 | Iowa |
| 95 | Wilson, Troy (E) | 6'4" | 257 | 30 | 6 | Pittsburg State |

### LINEBACKERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 59 | Colvin, Rosevelt | 6'3" | 254 | 24 | 3 | Purdue |
| 55 | Harris, Sean | 6'3" | 252 | 29 | 7 | Arizona |
| 53 | Holdman, Warrick | 6'1" | 246 | 25 | 3 | Texas A&M |
| 52 | Howards, Bobbie | 5'10" | 226 | 24 | 1 | Notre Dame |
| 92 | Minter, Barry | 6'2" | 250 | 31 | 9 | Tulsa |
| 91 | Samuel, Khari | 6'3" | 240 | 24 | 3 | Massachusetts |
| 54 | Urlacher, Brian | 6'3" | 244 | 23 | 1 | New Mexico |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 39 | Austin, Reggie | 5'9" | 173 | 34 | 1 | Wake Forest |
| 23 | Azumah, Jerry | 5'10" | 195 | 24 | 3 | New Hampshire |
| 30 | Brown, Mike | 5'10" | 202 | 23 | 2 | Nebraska |
| 31 | Donaldson, Cedric | 5'9" | 180 | 25 | 1 | LSU |
| 27 | Harris, Walt | 5'11" | 195 | 27 | 6 | Mississippi St. |
| 43 | Green, Michael | 6'0" | 176 | 25 | 2 | Northwestern St. |
| 47 | McElroy, Ray | 5'11" | 207 | 29 | 6 | Eastern Illinois |
| 26 | McMillon, Todd | 5'10" | 183 | 28 | 2 | Northern Arizona |
| 21 | McQuarters, R.W. | 5'9" | 198 | 24 | 4 | Oklahoma St. |
| 37 | Parrish, Tony | 5'10" | 211 | 25 | 4 | Washington |
| 29 | Smith, Frankie | 5'9" | 194 | 32 | 9 | Baylor |
| 25 | Smith, Thomas | 5'11" | 190 | 30 | 9 | North Carolina |
| 22 | Wooden, Shawn | 5'11" | 205 | 27 | 6 | Notre Dame |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | Aguiar, Louie (P) | 6'2" | 220 | 35 | 11 | Utah State |
| 2 | Edinger, Paul (K) | 5'10" | 162 | 23 | 1 | Michigan State |
| 4 | Maynard, Brad (P) | 6'1" | 190 | 27 | 5 | Ball State |

arrives. Kaseem Sinceno has potential—he caught 23 passes last year in limited duty—but he isn't the kind of player the Bears can hang their hat on.

**Offensive Line** Todd Perry, one of the most underrated guards in the game, left as a free agent. Rex Tucker will step in at left guard, but he's an unproven commodity. On the bright side, center Olin Kreutz is a rising star, left tackle Blake Brockermeyer and right guard Chris Villarrial are solid starters, and right tackle James (Big Ca) Williams is a wily veteran. All in all, this bunch isn't too shabby. Despite McNown's indecisiveness in the pocket, the O-line allowed only 34 sacks last season.

**Defensive Line** The signings of free-agent defensive tackles Ted Washington, a two-time Pro Bowler, and Keith Traylor bring much-needed muscle to the interior of the line. The Bears are hoping these twin towers—their arrival led to the release of tackle Jim Flanigan—can do for their defense what Sam Adams and Tony Siragusa have done for the Baltimore Ravens'.

For everything to click, though, Daniels must significantly improve upon last year's performance. He needs to intensify his efforts against the run and be an every-passing-down force in the pass rush. If the Bears finally generate a surge up front, the rest of the defense falls into place.

*Cade McNown*

**Linebackers** There's only one impact player in this group. When all is said and done, Brian Urlacher just might occupy the same mythical status as Dick Butkus.

Converted from a college safety to a middle linebacker in the pros, Urlacher spent his rookie season playing mostly on instinct. But he exhibited eye-popping quickness and bone-jarring hitting ability, earning defensive rookie of the year honors from just about every media outlet. He'll benefit from the presence of Traylor and Washington—think of how Adams and Siragusa funnel ballcarriers to Ray Lewis on the Ravens—not to mention by the year of experience he has under his belt.

**Defensive Backs** In safeties Tony Parrish and Mike Brown, the secondary has the makings of something special. Next to Urlacher, Parrish is the team's hardest hitter. Though he slumped last year, he has the talent to rebound. Brown, meanwhile, displayed outstanding field awareness and toughness as a rookie.

Cornerback is much less settled. Thomas Smith—a big-money free-agent acquisition last year—couldn't catch a football with a butterfly net, and former first-rounder Walt Harris has had an up-and-down career. Keep an eye on Jerry Azumah; the one-time running back is a diamond in the rough.

**Special Teams** Last year the Bears solved their problem at kicker by bringing in Paul Edinger, and they finally seem to have achieved stability at punter with the signing of ex-Giant Brad Maynard. Maybe next year they'll find someone who can return kicks effectively.

**Management** The NFL is a multibillion-dollar business, but the Bears continue to be run like a mom-and-pop operation. The scouting department is undermanned, and the absence of a general manager has made it impossible to formulate a cohesive game plan. There was, however, talk at press time that a GM might be hired after VP of player personnel Mark Hatley was let go in April.

You'd think Jauron, a soft-spoken man whose ability to rally the troops is questionable, would be in a do-or-die situation, but the Bears don't tend to act decisively in these matters. Remember that Dave Wannstedt's ineffective tenure in Chicago dragged on for six years.

At least the Gary Crowton era has come to a merciful end. He resigned as offensive coordinator last December to become head coach at BYU. For Bears fans weaned on smash-mouth football, it was good riddance. His razzle-dazzle offense, which was littered with elaborate spread formations, failed miserably in its second season. Look for new coordinator John Shoop to place more of an emphasis on the run, which should create some balance and produce more play-action opportunities.

*—William Wagner*

NFL (DANIELS); ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Phillip Daniels was a free-agent bust last year, failing to cure the ailing pass rush. With help around him, he can atone for that performance.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

The Bears won't be playing any games with postseason ramifications, but at least they play the Packers twice in the league's oldest rivalry.

### KEY STAT

Only the Vikings had fewer takeaways last year than Chicago's 20. Given all the uncertainty on offense, a repeat performance won't cut it.

### GLUE GUY

Chicago doesn't have one, which is part of its problem. Perhaps linebacker Brian Urlacher will grow into the role.

***Phillip Daniels***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **David Terrell** WR, Michigan
He has imposing size (6'2", 205) and athletic ability.

2 **Anthony Thomas** RB, Michigan
A product of Michigan's superb offensive line?

3 **Mike Gandy** G, Notre Dame
A smart, athletic and polished pro prospect.

4 **Karon Riley** DE, Minnesota
Probably won't make an immediate impact in Chicago.

5 **Bernard Robertson** C, Tulane
While in college, showed capacity to improve and adjust.

7 **John Capel** WR, Florida
A track man with very little football experience.

**C–** Sure, Terrell has the potential to be a wonderful NFL player, but wideout wasn't one of Chicago's primary areas of concern. A pass rusher was. Cal defensive end Andre Carter, the guy the Bears really wanted—their enthusiasm was no secret, and it likely played into the 49ers' eagerness to trade up—went seventh to San Francisco. Minnesota's Riley might turn out to be a steal in the fourth round, but he doesn't project as an impact player his rookie year the way Carter does. Who knows with Thomas. He broke all kinds of school records at Michigan, but was always carrying behind NFL-caliber blockers. Chicago could have used a big-time cover corner, but like several other needs, that one went untouched. Then after the draft, personnel man Mark Hatley departed as expected, leaving the Bears to develop his picks.

# St. Louis RAMS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **9** |
| Healthy again, Warner's ready to rejoin elite QBs. | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **10** |
| When Faulk is at his best, there's no one better. | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **9** |
| Bruce, Hakim and Holt–NFL's most dynamic trio. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **7** |
| They're tough, but Warner could use more time. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **6** |
| Restocked with younger, hungrier, cheaper talent. | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **4** |
| They're unlikely to improve against the run. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **6** |
| Newcomers Williams, Herring are solid veterans. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **8** |
| Jeff Wilkins is automatic; Hakim is electric. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **8** |
| Attacked defensive problems without hesitation. | |
| **OVERALL:** | **8** |
| With retooled D, Rams will factor in postseason. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**1st in NFC West**

## RAMS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Mike Martz (10-7 with St. Louis)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Kurt Warner | 235-347, 3,429 yds, 21 TDs |
| RB | Marshall Faulk | 253 car, 1,359 yds, 18 TDs |
| FB | Robert Holcombe | 21 car, 70 yds, 3 TDs |
| TE | Ernie Conwell | 5 rec, 40 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Isaac Bruce | 87 rec, 1,471 yds, 9 TDs |
| WR | Torry Holt | 82 rec, 1,635 yds, 6 TDs |
| LT | Orlando Pace | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Tom Nutten | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Andy McCollum | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Adam Timmerman | 16 games, 15 starts |
| RT | Ryan Tucker | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Grant Wistrom | 63 tackles, 11 sacks |
| DT | Damione Lewis (R) | 41 tackles, 3 sacks* |
| DT | Ray Agnew | 32 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DE | Leonard Little | 17 tackles, 5 sacks |
| LB | Don Davis (TB) | 6 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | London Fletcher | 133 tackles, 5.5 sacks |
| LB | Mark Fields (NO) | 84 tackles, 2 sacks |
| CB | Aeneas Williams (ARI) | 62 tackles, 5 INTs |
| CB | Dexter McCleon | 54 tackles, 8 INTs |
| SS | Adam Archuleta (R) | 119 tackles, 1 INT* |
| FS | Kim Herring (BAL) | 54 tackles, 3 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Jeff Wilkins | 38-38 XPs, 17-17 FGs |
| P | John Baker | 43 punts, 40.4 avg |
| KR | Az-Zahir Hakim | 1 KR, 2.0 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Az-Zahir Hakim | 32 PR, 15.3 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Bobby April, special teams; Chris Clausen, strength and conditioning; Henry Ellard, off. asst.; Mike Haluchak, LBs; Jim Hanifan, OL; Bobby Jackson, offensive coordinator/RBs; Bill Kollar, DL; Dana LeDuc, strength and conditioning; John Matsko, OL; Ron Meeks, DBs; Wilbert Montgomery, TEs; John Ramsdell, QBs; Lovie Smith, defensive coordinator; Ken Zampese, WRs

# Revamped D could put '99 champs back on top

By Dennis Georgatos

Even during last year's 6-0 start, with the Rams offense operating at full throttle, there were rumblings of troubles on defense. The extent of the problem became painfully clear in their first loss, when the Rams put up little defensive resistance in a 54-34 whipping by the Kansas City Chiefs.

Coach Mike Martz was so stunned, he coaxed defensive guru Bud Carson out of retirement in a desperate bid for a quick fix that never materialized.

The Rams went on to average 27 points per outing over their final nine games, receiving inspired play along the way from league MVP Marshall Faulk and QB Kurt Warner.

But they gave up almost as many points (24.3) as they scored, losing five times in the final nine weeks. By season's end, St. Louis had scored a team-record 540 points—the third highest total in NFL history—and broken the league mark for most yards in a season with 7,075. But it had also given up a league-high 471 points, nearly double

TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

*MVP Faulk, an elusive runner and receiver, has grown into a team leader in St. Louis.*

what it allowed a year earlier en route to winning the Super Bowl.

Soon after Aaron Brooks threw for four TDs to help New Orleans eliminate the defending Super Bowl champs in the first round of the playoffs, Martz basically junked his D. He shook up the coaching staff and got rid of a slew of players. Martz traded former Pro Bowl defensive end Kevin Carter and released Super Bowl XXXIV hero Mike Jones, whose last-second tackle of Tennessee receiver Kevin Dyson preserved the Rams' championship.

Martz has left no room for sentiment in the reconstruction of the defense, which could feature as many as eight new starters. He believes if the defense can improve from 23rd last year to 15th or better, the Rams could be right back in contention for a Super Bowl.

"That's what we need to do," Martz says. "But I'm more concerned with scoring defense than with the yardage we give up. That's the bigger key, cutting down on points allowed."

Martz brought in former Tampa Bay assistant Lovie Smith as defensive coordinator, Bill Kollar to coach the line and Ron Meeks the secondary. The lone defensive staff holdover is linebackers coach Mike Haluchak.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Philadelphia | 4:15 |
| Sept. 16 | ATLANTA | 4:05 |
| Sept. 23 | at San Francisco | 4:15 |
| Sept. 30 | MIAMI | 1:00 |
| Oct. 8 | at Detroit | 9:00 |
| Oct. 14 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at New York Jets | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | NEW ORLEANS | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 11 | CAROLINA | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at New England | 8:30 |
| Nov. 26 | TAMPA BAY | 9:00 |
| Dec. 2 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| Dec. 17 | at New Orleans | 9:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Carolina | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | Indianapolis | 1:00 |

TRANS WORLD DOME (66,000)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

**10-6, T-1st in NFC WEST**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 4 | DENVER | W, 41-36 |
| Sept. 10 | at Seattle | W, 37-34 |
| Sept. 17 | SAN FRANCISCO | W, 41-24 |
| Sept. 24 | at Atlanta | W, 41-20 |
| Oct. 1 | SAN DIEGO | W, 57-31 |
| Oct. 15 | ATLANTA | W, 45-29 |
| Oct. 22 | at Kansas City | L, 34-54 |
| Oct. 29 | at San Francisco | W, 34-24 |
| Nov. 5 | CAROLINA | L, 24-27 |
| Nov. 12 | at New York Giants | W, 38-24 |
| Nov. 20 | WASHINGTON | L, 20-33 |
| Nov. 26 | NEW ORLEANS | L, 24-31 |
| Dec. 3 | at Carolina | L, 3-16 |
| Dec. 10 | MINNESOTA | W, 40-29 |
| Dec. 18 | at Tampa Bay | L, 35-38 |
| Dec. 24 | at New Orleans | W, 26-21 |
| Dec. 30 | at New Orleans* | L, 28-31 |

* NFC Wild Card

In April, the Rams used their first five picks, including three first-rounders, on defensive players. Emblazoned on a draft room board was the number 471, their opponent's point total in 2000.

**Quarterbacks** Warner was more interception-prone last year, largely because the offense was constantly under pressure to offset a leaky defense. He also had health problems, missing five games because of a broken bone in his hand and a concussion. Still, St. Louis became the first team ever to post two 500-point seasons, and if Warner is healthy, there's no reason the Rams can't make it three.

Trent Green stepped in nicely for the injured Warner to keep the Rams offense humming, but he was traded to Kansas City before the draft. That means young Joe Germaine—who didn't throw a pass last year—is likely to be Warner's primary backup this season, if he noses out six-year veteran Paul Justin.

**Running Backs** When Faulk establishes the run, the Rams offense can be unpredictable and downright devastating. Faulk poses a dual threat to defenses as a powerful but elusive runner and an exceptional receiver capable of beating just about any linebacker—many a defensive back, too—in man coverage. An acknowledged playmaker who scored an NFL-record 26 touchdowns last year, Faulk has grown into his role as a team leader as well, showing the way to teammates with a quiet, determined style and playing through pain without complaint.

At fullback, James Hodgins could challenge incumbent Robert Holcombe for more playing time, but neither can expect to get many touches.

## 2000 RAMS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 442.2 (1) | 115.2 (17) | 327.0 (1) | 33.8 (1) | 26 (1) | 37 (1) | 4.8 (2t) | 14.5 (1) | 44 (21) | 380 (2) | 47.5 (1) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 343.4 (23) | 106.1 (13) | 237.3 (27) | 29.4 (31) | 18 (27) | 32 (30) | 4.4 (24t) | 12.6 (26) | 51 (4t) | 19 (11t) | -10 (26t) |

## 2001 RAMS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | Bulger, Marc | 6'3" | 210 | 24 | R | West Virginia |
| 9 | Germaine, Joe | 6'2" | 210 | 25 | 3 | Ohio State |
| 16 | Justin, Paul | 6'4" | 211 | 33 | 6 | Arizona State |
| 13 | Warner, Kurt | 6'2" | 220 | 30 | 4 | Northern Iowa |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24 | Canidate, Trung | 5'11" | 192 | 24 | 2 | Arizona |
| 28 | Faulk, Marshall | 5'10" | 211 | 28 | 8 | San Diego St. |
| 42 | Hodgins, James (FB) | 5'11" | 230 | 24 | 3 | San Jose State |
| 25 | Holcombe, Robert (FB) | 5'11" | 220 | 25 | 4 | Illinois |
| 44 | Walendy, Craig | 6'2" | 228 | 24 | 2 | UCLA |
| 33 | Watson, Justin | 6'0" | 225 | 26 | 3 | San Diego St. |
| 26 | White, Anthony | 6'0" | 195 | 24 | 1 | Kentucky |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | Bailey, Lavel | 5'8" | 182 | 23 | R | Akron |
| 49 | Blackwood, Bryan (TE) | 6'4" | 256 | 22 | R | Oklahoma St. |
| 83 | Blevins, Darrius | 6'2" | 216 | 25 | 1 | Memphis |
| 80 | Bruce, Isaac | 6'0" | 188 | 28 | 8 | Memphis |
| 84 | Conwell, Ernie (TE) | 6'1" | 265 | 29 | 6 | Washington |
| 48 | Cole, Giles (TE) | 6'6" | 230 | 25 | 1 | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 15 | Gideon, Sherrod | 6'0" | 176 | 24 | R | Southern Miss. |
| 81 | Hakim, Az-Zahir | 5'10" | 178 | 24 | 4 | San Diego St. |
| 88 | Holt, Torry | 6'0" | 190 | 25 | 3 | N.C. State |
| 86 | Manumaleuna, Brandon (TE) | 6'2" | 288 | 21 | R | Arizona |
| 87 | Proehl, Ricky | 6'0" | 190 | 32 | 12 | Wake Forest |
| 82 | St. Paul, Francis | 5'9" | 180 | 22 | R | Northern Arizona |
| 89 | Wynn, Milton | 6'2" | 207 | 22 | R | Washington St. |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 64 | Garcia, Frank (G) | 6'2" | 302 | 29 | 7 | Washington |
| 72 | Kline, Andrew (G) | 6'2" | 303 | 24 | 2 | San Diego St. |
| 67 | McCollum, Andy (C) | 6'4" | 295 | 31 | 8 | Toledo |
| 65 | Newell, Mike (C) | 6'4" | 300 | 25 | 2 | Colorado State |
| 71 | Noa, Kaulana (T) | 6'4" | 320 | 24 | 1 | Hawaii |
| 61 | Nutten, Tom (C) | 6'5" | 300 | 30 | 5 | Western Mich. |
| 76 | Pace, Orlando (T) | 6'7" | 320 | 25 | 5 | Ohio State |
| 73 | Spikes, Cameron (G) | 6'2" | 310 | 24 | 3 | Texas A&M |
| 70 | St. Clair, John (C) | 6'5" | 293 | 24 | 2 | Virginia |
| 68 | Swanson, Pete (T) | 6'5" | 307 | 27 | 3 | Stanford |
| 62 | Timmerman, Adam (G) | 6'4" | 300 | 30 | 7 | South Dakota St. |
| 50 | Tucker, Ryan (C) | 6'5" | 305 | 26 | 5 | TCU |
| 60 | Tujague, Ryan (T) | 6'5" | 293 | 25 | R | Washington St. |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 99 | Agnew, Ray (E) | 6'3" | 285 | 33 | 12 | N.C. State |
| 94 | Hyder, Gaylon (T) | 6'5" | 290 | 26 | 3 | TCU |
| 97 | Jackson, Tyoka (E) | 6'2" | 280 | 29 | 7 | Penn State |
| 95 | Jones, Cedric (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 27 | 5 | Oklahoma |
| 92 | Lewis, Damione (T) | 6'2" | 297 | 23 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 77 | Moran, Sean (E) | 6'3" | 275 | 28 | 6 | Colorado State |
| 79 | Pickett, Ryan (T) | 6'2" | 297 | 21 | R | Florida State |
| 45 | Robinson, Jeff (E) | 6'4" | 275 | 31 | 9 | Idaho |
| 98 | Wistrom, Grant (E) | 6'4" | 267 | 25 | 4 | Nebraska |
| 75 | Word, Mark (E) | 6'4" | 282 | 25 | 2 | Jacksonville St. |
| 66 | Young, Brian (E) | 6'2" | 278 | 24 | 2 | UTEP |
| 90 | Zgonina, Jeff (T) | 6'2" | 300 | 31 | 9 | Purdue |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 51 | Allen, Brian | 6'0" | 232 | 23 | R | Florida State |
| 54 | Collins, Todd | 6'2" | 248 | 31 | 9 | Carson-Newman |
| 58 | Davis, Don | 6'1" | 234 | 28 | 6 | Kansas |
| 55 | Fields, Mark | 6'2" | 244 | 28 | 7 | Washington St. |
| 59 | Fletcher, London | 5'10" | 241 | 26 | 4 | John Carroll |
| 91 | Little, Leonard | 6'3" | 237 | 26 | 4 | Tennessee |
| 53 | Miller, Keith | 6'1" | 238 | 25 | 2 | California |
| 52 | Polley, Tommy | 6'3" | 218 | 23 | R | Florida State |
| | Smith, Jamel | 6'1" | 245 | 24 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 91 | Zimmerman, Scott | 5'11" | 239 | 24 | R | Northern Colorado |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 | Archuleta, Adam | 5'11" | 209 | 24 | R | Arizona State |
| 32 | Bly, Dre' | 5'9" | 185 | 24 | 3 | North Carolina |
| 27 | Bowen, Matt | 6'1" | 202 | 25 | 2 | Iowa |
| 39 | Brown, Darwin | 5'10" | 175 | 24 | 1 | Texas Tech |
| 23 | Bush, Devin | 6'0" | 210 | 28 | 7 | Florida State |
| 37 | Butler, Jeremetrius | 5'9" | 181 | 22 | R | Kansas State |
| 38 | Coady, Rich | 6'0" | 203 | 25 | 3 | Texas A&M |
| 20 | Herring, Kim | 6'0" | 200 | 25 | 5 | Penn State |
| 21 | McCleon, Dexter | 5'10" | 195 | 27 | 5 | Clemson |
| 22 | Shepherd, Jacoby | 6'1" | 195 | 22 | 2 | Oklahoma St. |
| 35 | Williams, Aeneas | 5'11" | 200 | 33 | 11 | Southern |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | Baker, John (P) | 6'3" | 223 | 24 | 2 | North Texas |
| 14 | Wilkins, Jeff (K) | 6'2" | 205 | 29 | 8 | Youngstown St. |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Every time he gets his hands on the ball, dynamic receiver and punt returner Az-Zahir Hakim is a threat to go the distance.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

This could be the last season the budding Saints-Rams rivalry plays out twice a year–if a proposed realignment is approved. There's no love lost here after last season's playoff clash.

### KEY STAT

The Rams scored a franchise-record 540 points last season, but got little help from a defense that allowed 471 points.

### GLUE GUY

Marshall Faulk played hurt much of last year, and his teammates knew it. He's the engine that makes this joy ride go.

*Az-Zahir Hakim*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Damione Lewis** DT, Miami (Fla.)
Speed, strength have been compared to Warren Sapp's.

1 **Adam Archuleta** S, Arizona State
Workout warrior with great instincts and hitter's mentality.

1 **Ryan Pickett** DT, Ohio State
Youngster should provide defensive line depth.

2 **Tommy Polley** LB, Florida State
Quick and strong with a nose for the ball; might start.

3 **Brian Allen** LB, Florida State
Fifth consecutive defensive player Rams took on Day 1.

4 **Milton Wynn** WR, Washington State
Has potential, and he'll be learning from the best.

4 **Brandon Manumaleuna** TE, Arizona
Converted defensive tackle is a relentless blocker.

5 **Jeremetrius Butler** CB, Kansas State
He has a chance to fit in as a nickel or dime back.

6 **Francis St. Paul** WR, Northern Arizona
Has his work cut out for him to make the team.

**A** Undone by an awful defense last year, the Rams tore the unit apart and spent the offseason retooling it. Archuleta, Lewis, Pickett and Polley all figure to play prominent roles this season. St. Louis considered itself fortunate to get a player of Allen's caliber in the third round. What a move to swap first-round picks with Arizona and acquire hardened veteran cornerback Aeneas Williams.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The Rams lost Tony Horne to Kansas City—as part of the Green trade, St. Louis agreed not to match the Chiefs' offer to Horne—but Isaac Bruce, Torry Holt and Az-Zahir Hakim remain an imposing threesome. Critical elements in the Rams' quick-strike attack, all three can go deep at any time or take a short slant and bust it downfield.

Holt finished with a 19.9-yard average per reception, tops in the league among regulars. He blossomed into one of the league's brightest young stars, leading the NFL in receiving yards (1,635).

Ricky Proehl, the fourth man in passing situations, can still get open and has great hands. With the trade of tight end Roland Williams to Oakland, Ernie Conwell and rookie Brandon Manumaleuna will handle the position.

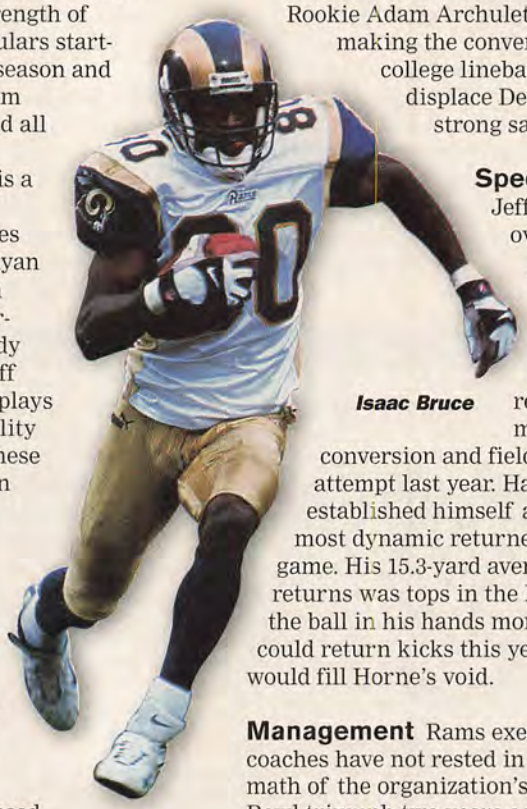
**Offensive Line** The explosiveness of the Rams' offense begins with the stability and strength of their line. Four regulars started every game last season and the fifth, guard Adam Timmerman, started all but one.

Because Warner is a pocket passer, it's incumbent on tackles Orlando Pace and Ryan Tucker, guards Tom Nutten and Timmerman and center Andy McCollum to fend off the pass rush until plays develop. Faulk's agility eases pressure on these guys to be perfect on their run-blocking assignments.

**Defensive Line** This unit provided the least resistance for opponents last year, and Martz wasted no time gutting it. He traded Carter to Tennessee and released D'Marco Farr. Ray Agnew was re-signed to a more cap-friendly deal and will have a chance to get his starting job back, though he'll have to edge one of two first-round picks—Damione Lewis and Ryan Pickett. End Grant Wistrom, a vocal leader, is back after last year's 11-sack season. He could line up opposite Leonard Little, who has converted from linebacker, but the Rams also signed Giants castoff Cedric Jones to vie for the job.

**Linebackers** Martz overhauled this unit as well. London Fletcher remains, but Jones is gone, and Todd Collins was not expected back. Free-agent signees Don Davis and Mark Fields, the latter of whom was released by the Saints after declining to take a pay cut, have stepped in. Second-round pick Tommy Polley and his Florida State teammate, third-rounder Brian Allen, also will see playing time. One or both could start at some point this year.

**Defensive Backs** The secondary was one of the weakest aspects of St. Louis' game last year. So the Rams acquired veteran cornerback Aeneas Williams from the Cardinals—he'll replace Todd Lyght, who's now with Detroit—and signed safety Kim Herring from the Ravens. Dexter McCleon, who demonstrated a ball-hawking mentality with eight interceptions, will play opposite Williams at the other corner. Rookie Adam Archuleta, who's making the conversion from a college linebacker, could displace Devin Bush at strong safety.



*Isaac Bruce*

**Special Teams** Jeff Wilkins has overcome injury and inconsistency early in his career to become a reliable kicker, making every conversion and field goal attempt last year. Hakim has established himself as one of the most dynamic returners in the game. His 15.3-yard average on punt returns was tops in the NFC. To get the ball in his hands more, Hakim could return kicks this year, which would fill Horne's void.

**Management** Rams executives and coaches have not rested in the aftermath of the organization's first Super Bowl triumph two years ago, aggressively pursuing change and improvements to get back on a championship track. Martz has been given wide latitude in football operations, and GM Charley Armey put the Rams in great position to help themselves in the draft with trades that netted the team three first-round picks. Now all the new players have to do is produce.

*Dennis Georgatos covers the NFL for the* San Jose Mercury News.

NFL (HAKIM); BRIAN BAHR/ALLSPORT

# New Orleans SAINTS

# Playoff return possible for re-energized team

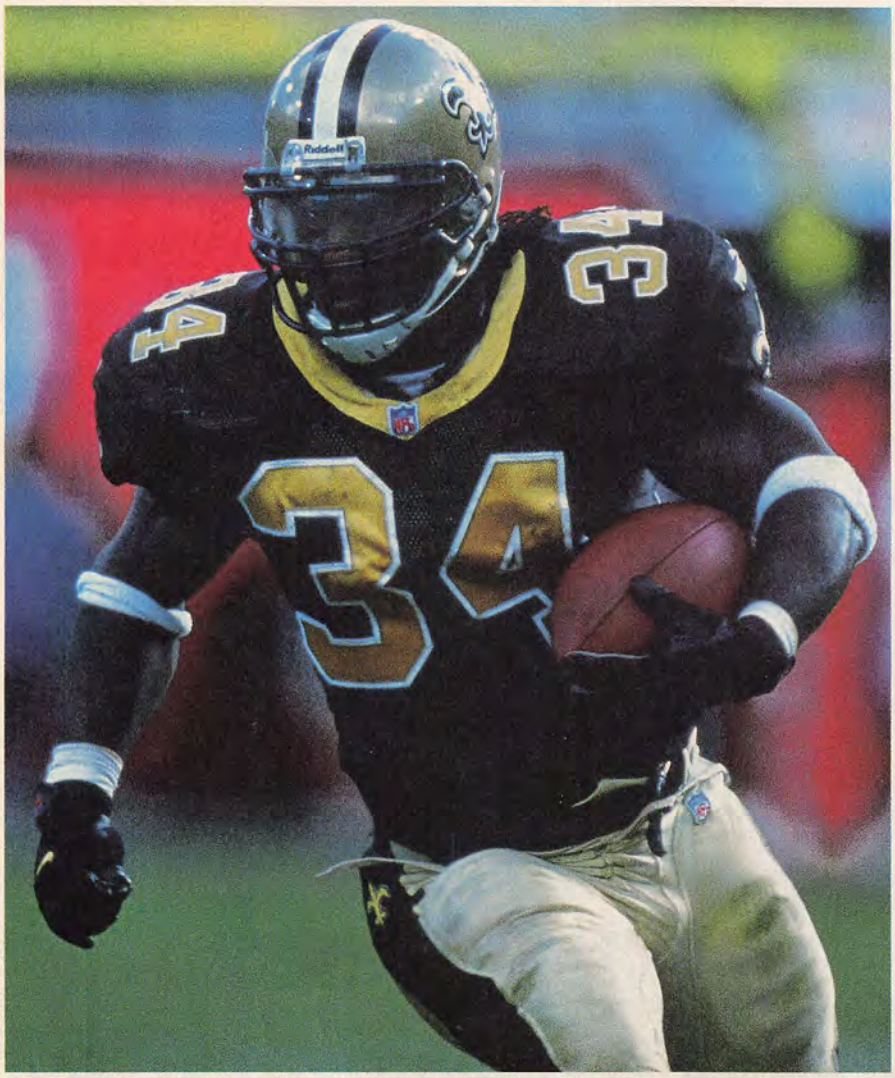
Times certainly have changed for the New Orleans Saints, who now find themselves with a deep corps of skill players on offense.

Make no mistake, the Saints' strength remains their quarterback-harassing defense. But general manager Randy Mueller has upgraded his offense to the point where it doesn't necessarily need to rely on running back Ricky Williams to remain healthy for all 16 games. Williams' presence, though, certainly could be the difference in a playoff run.

Mueller and staff tabbed running back Deuce McAllister of Ole Miss with their first pick in April's draft, a move some speculated would drive Williams out of town. But McAllister was simply too talented to pass up.

"He's a totally different runner than Ricky," coach Jim Haslett says. "He's a Fred Taylor type, quick. He has great hands and speed and can get to the corner. I don't think you can have enough guys at that position."

The same is true at quarterback, where Jeff Blake appeared to be a good fit for the Saints after spinning his



TODD WARSHAW/ALLSPORT

***With draftee McAllister waiting in the wings, Williams is under pressure to perform.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Brooks has a lot of skills to harness. | **6** |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** A healthy Williams could be trouble for opponents. | **7** |
| **RECEIVERS:** Horn, Connell present tough matchups. | **7** |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Durable line complements new skill players. | **6** |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** It doesn't get any better than this front four. | **10** |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Clemons' chore is to hold down the middle. | **6** |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Addition of Bellamy gives Saints a centerfielder. | **6** |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Audition for kicker opening will continue. | **6** |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Mueller has erased disaster of previous regime. | **8** |
| **OVERALL:** Saints won't sneak up on teams, especially Rams. | **7** |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**2nd in NFC West**

## SAINTS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Jim Haslett (11-7 with New Orleans)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Aaron Brooks | 113-194, 1,514 yds, 9 TDs |
| RB | Ricky Williams | 248 car, 1,000 yds, 8 TDs |
| FB | Terrelle Smith | 29 car, 131 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Cameron Cleeland | DNP-INJURED |
| WR | Joe Horn | 94 rec, 1,340 yds, 8 TDs |
| WR | Albert Connell (WAS) | 39 rec, 762 yds, 3 TDs |
| LT | Willie Roaf | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Wally Williams | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Jerry Fontenot | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Chris Naeole | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Kyle Turley | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Joe Johnson | 48 tackles, 12 sacks |
| DT | Norman Hand | 54 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DT | La'Roi Glover | 66 tackles, 17 sacks |
| DE | Darren Howard | 52 tackles, 11 sacks |
| LB | Darrin Smith | 91 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Charlie Clemons | DNP-INJURED |
| LB | Keith Mitchell | 85 tackles, 6.5 sacks |
| CB | Fred Weary | 55 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Kevin Mathis | 73 tackles, 1 INT |
| SS | Sammy Knight | 100 tackles, 5 INTs |
| FS | Jay Bellamy (SEA) | 87 tackles, 4 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Jeff Hall (STL) | 9-9 XPs, 4-5 FGs |
| P | Toby Gowin | 74 punts, 41.1 avg |
| KR | Chad Morton | 44 KR, 23.4 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Deuce McAllister (R) | 17 PR, 11.2 avg, 1 TD* |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Hubbard Alexander, WRs; Dave Atkins, RBs; Joe Baker, DBs/special teams asst.; Frank Cignetti Jr., QBs; Sam Clancy, DL; Al Everest, special teams; Rock Gullickson, strength and conditioning; Jack Henry, OL; Jim Hostler, off. asst.; Mike McCarthy, offensive coordinator; Winston Moss, LBs; Bob Palcic, TEs; Rick Venturi, DBs; Ron Zook, defensive coordinator

wheels for years with Cincinnati. But it wasn't Blake who led the Saints to the NFC West title and a first-round playoff victory over the defending Super Bowl champion St. Louis Rams. When Blake fractured his right foot, Aaron Brooks, getting the first real playing time of his NFL career, won four of seven games. Brooks heads into 2001 as the favorite to start.

"If everybody wants to play it up, they can," says Blake of the impending controversy. "Aaron and I don't care. Whoever's in there, we're going to back each other up. Our objective is to win football games and to win the Super Bowl, regardless of who's playing quarterback."

## 2001 SCHEDULE

**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Buffalo | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | Open Date | |
| Sept. 30 | at New York Giants | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | MINNESOTA | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at Carolina | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | at St. Louis | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | NEW YORK JETS | 8:30 |
| Nov. 11 | at San Francisco | 4:15 |
| Nov. 18 | INDIANAPOLIS | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | at New England | 4:05 |
| Dec. 2 | CAROLINA | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Dec. 17 | ST. LOUIS | 9:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Tampa Bay | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | WASHINGTON | 8:30 |

LOUISIANA SUPERDOME (65,044)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

**10-6, T-1st in NFC WEST**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | DETROIT | L, 10-14 |
| Sept. 10 | at San Diego | W, 28-27 |
| Sept. 17 | at Seattle | L, 10-20 |
| Sept. 24 | PHILADELPHIA | L, 7-21 |
| Oct. 8 | at Chicago | W, 31-10 |
| Oct. 15 | CAROLINA | W, 24-6 |
| Oct. 22 | at Atlanta | W, 21-19 |
| Oct. 29 | at Arizona | W, 21-10 |
| Nov. 5 | SAN FRANCISCO | W, 31-15 |
| Nov. 12 | at Carolina | W, 20-10 |
| Nov. 19 | OAKLAND | L, 22-31 |
| Nov. 26 | at St. Louis | W, 31-24 |
| Dec. 3 | DENVER | L, 23-38 |
| Dec. 10 | at San Francisco | W, 31-27 |
| Dec. 17 | ATLANTA | W, 23-7 |
| Dec. 24 | ST. LOUIS | L, 21-26 |
| Dec. 30 | ST. LOUIS* | W, 31-28 |
| Jan. 6 | at Minnesota# | L, 16-34 |

* NFC Wild Card, # NFC Divisional Playoff

**Quarterbacks** The Brooks trade with Green Bay seemed minor last year, but Saints offensive coordinator Mike McCarthy had worked with him during the QB's '99 rookie season with the Packers and recognized his vast potential.

Brooks, who entered the starting lineup after Blake got hurt on Nov. 19, took the Saints' offense to another dimension. If Brooks wasn't firing pinpoint passes, he was scrambling for key first downs on third-and-long. In five starts at the end of the regular season, Brooks compiled an 85.7 passer rating. Even more impressive, he was composed in throwing four TDs to beat the Rams in New Orleans' wild-card win.

What Blake did for the Saints through midseason cannot be ignored—he engineered a six-game winning streak in October and November—but Brooks has more momentum entering 2001.

**Running Backs** At one point, McAllister was considered the best running back in the draft. The Saints figure they got a steal with the 23rd pick.

Now the pressure is on Williams. For one, he might be too expensive to keep in 2002 if he doesn't produce every week this year. Also, Williams hasn't exactly endeared himself to Haslett. He was the only Saint under contract to skip the team's off-season voluntary conditioning program, and Williams also contacted the Texas Rangers, for whom he used to play minor league baseball, about returning. But as a .211 career hitter, Williams is no Deion Sanders.

Williams was used more as a receiver out of the backfield last season, catching 44 passes. But McAllister might find a role as a third-down back because of his versatility. Terrelle Smith starts at fullback. The Saints took Moran Norris of Kansas in the fourth round as an insurance policy on Smith's bad back.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Joe Horn had the best season of his career after coming over from the Kansas City Chiefs. Hampered late in the year by injuries, Horn still caught 94 passes for 1,340 yards and eight TDs. He was

## 2000 SAINTS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 337.3 (10t) | 129.3 (8) | 208.1 (14) | 22.1 (10t) | 14 (12t) | 22 (9t) | 4.1 (16t) | 12.0 (9t) | 39 (17) | 312 (10) | 42.7 (6) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 296.4 (8) | 104.5 (10) | 191.9 (10) | 19.1 (10) | 14 (20t) | 17 (9t) | 4.2 (18t) | 12.1 (24) | 66 (1) | 20 (9t) | 9 (8) |

## 2001 SAINTS PRESEASON ROSTER

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **QUARTERBACKS** | | | | | |
| 18 | Blake, Jeff | 6'0" | 210 | 30 | 10 | East Carolina |
| 2 | Brooks, Aaron | 6'4" | 205 | 25 | 3 | Virginia |
| 12 | Delhomme, Jake | 6'2" | 205 | 26 | 3 | La.-Lafayette |
| | **RUNNING BACKS** | | | | | |
| 45 | Goodspeed, Joey (FB) | 5'11" | 253 | 23 | R | Notre Dame |
| 32 | Harris, Derrick (FB) | 6'0" | 252 | 28 | 5 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 26 | McAllister, Deuce | 6'1" | 220 | 23 | R | Mississippi |
| 30 | Morton, Chad | 5'8" | 186 | 24 | 2 | USC |
| 33 | Norris, Moran (FB) | 6'1" | 250 | 23 | R | Kansas |
| 44 | Smith, Terrelle (FB) | 6'0" | 246 | 23 | 2 | Arizona State |
| 34 | Williams, Ricky | 5'10" | 236 | 24 | 3 | Texas |
| | **RECEIVERS** | | | | | |
| 85 | Cleeland, Cameron (TE) | 6'4" | 272 | 26 | 3 | Washington |
| 82 | Connell, Albert | 6'0" | 179 | 27 | 5 | Texas A&M |
| 81 | Hall, Lamont (TE) | 6'4" | 260 | 26 | 3 | Clemson |
| 87 | Horn, Joe | 6'1" | 206 | 29 | 6 | Itawamba |
| 47 | Houser, Kevin (TE) | 6'2" | 250 | 24 | 2 | Ohio State |
| 88 | Jackson, Willie | 6'1" | 212 | 30 | 8 | Florida |
| 19 | Lewis, Michael | 5'9" | 175 | 28 | R | No College |
| 86 | Ojo, Onome | 6'4" | 205 | 24 | R | UC-Davis |
| 83 | Poole, Keith | 6'0" | 193 | 27 | 5 | Arizona State |
| 89 | Stachelski, Dave (TE) | 6'3" | 245 | 24 | 2 | Boise State |
| 84 | Wheatley, Austin (TE) | 6'3" | 254 | 23 | 2 | Iowa |
| 13 | Williams, Richard | 5'10" | 178 | 24 | R | Arizona State |
| 80 | Wilson, Robert | 5'11" | 176 | 27 | 3 | Florida A&M |
| | **OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 69 | Ackerman, Tom (G) | 6'3" | 296 | 28 | 6 | Eastern Wash. |
| 62 | Fontenot, Jerry (C) | 6'3" | 300 | 34 | 13 | Texas A&M |
| 60 | Garner, Jeff (C) | 6'3" | 296 | 23 | R | TCU |
| 65 | Naeole, Chris (G) | 6'3" | 313 | 26 | 5 | Colorado |
| 67 | O'Brien, Nick (G) | 6'2" | 238 | 28 | R | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 70 | Price, Marcus (T) | 6'6" | 321 | 29 | 4 | LSU |
| 76 | Reyes, Tutan (T) | 6'3" | 299 | 23 | 2 | Mississippi |
| 77 | Roaf, Willie (T) | 6'5" | 312 | 31 | 9 | Louisiana Tech |
| 78 | Terrell, Daryl (T) | 6'5" | 296 | 25 | 3 | Southern Miss. |
| 64 | Traylor, Albert (G) | 6'2" | 307 | 23 | R | NW State-La. |
| 68 | Turley, Kyle (T) | 6'5" | 300 | 26 | 4 | San Diego St. |
| 79 | White, Mitch (T) | 6'4" | 311 | 23 | R | Oregon State |
| 63 | Williams, Wally (C) | 6'2" | 321 | 30 | 9 | Florida A&M |
| | **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 92 | Chase, Martin (T) | 6'2" | 310 | 26 | 4 | Oklahoma |
| 91 | Davis, Ennis (T) | 6'4" | 308 | 23 | R | USC |
| 95 | Douglas, Marques (E) | 6'2" | 270 | 24 | 1 | Howard |
| 73 | Fitzpatrick, Larry (T) | 6'4" | 275 | 25 | 1 | Illinois State |
| 97 | Glover, La'Roi (T) | 6'2" | 285 | 27 | 6 | San Diego St. |
| 99 | Hand, Norman (T) | 6'3" | 310 | 28 | 7 | Mississippi |
| 93 | Howard, Darren (E) | 6'3" | 281 | 24 | 2 | Kansas State |
| 94 | Johnson, Joe (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 29 | 8 | Louisville |
| 61 | Seals, Richard (E) | 6'1" | 316 | 25 | R | Utah |
| 90 | Smith, Kenny (T) | 6'4" | 295 | 22 | R | Alabama |
| 98 | Whitehead, Willie (E) | 6'3" | 285 | 28 | 3 | Auburn |
| | **LINEBACKERS** | | | | | |
| 51 | Clarke, Phil | 6'0" | 241 | 24 | 3 | Pittsburgh |
| 56 | Clemons, Charlie | 6'2" | 250 | 29 | 4 | Georgia |
| 52 | Hodge, Sedrick | 6'4" | 244 | 22 | R | North Carolina |
| 66 | Jackson, Jonathan | 6'2" | 239 | 23 | R | Oregon State |
| 53 | Jones, Donta | 6'2" | 235 | 29 | 7 | Nebraska |
| 58 | Kelsey, Keith | 6'1" | 254 | 25 | 1 | Florida |
| 59 | Mitchell, Keith | 6'2" | 245 | 27 | 5 | Texas A&M |
| 72 | Ray, Bryan | 6'2" | 272 | 23 | R | Wake Forest |
| 57 | Reese, Edward | 6'4" | 282 | 23 | R | Jackson State |
| 54 | Smith, Darrin | 6'1" | 230 | 31 | 9 | Miami (Fla.) |
| | **DEFENSIVE BACKS** | | | | | |
| 20 | Bellamy, Jay | 5'11" | 199 | 29 | 8 | Rutgers |
| 37 | Gleason, Steve | 5'11" | 215 | 24 | 1 | Washington St. |
| 35 | Harris, Corey | 5'10" | 191 | 24 | 1 | North Alabama |
| 36 | Hawthorne, Michael | 6'3" | 196 | 24 | 2 | Purdue |
| 21 | Israel, Steve | 5'11" | 194 | 32 | 9 | Pittsburgh |
| 29 | Knight, Sammy | 6'0" | 205 | 25 | 5 | USC |
| 40 | Lewis, Milo | 5'10" | 188 | 23 | R | Alabama |
| 23 | Mathis, Kevin | 5'9" | 181 | 27 | 5 | Texas A&M-Com. |
| 31 | Newsome, Richard | 5'10" | 194 | 23 | R | Michigan State |
| 28 | Oldham, Chris | 5'9" | 200 | 32 | 11 | Oregon |
| 22 | Thomas, Fred | 5'9" | 172 | 27 | 6 | Tennessee-Martin |
| 42 | Vaughn, Gerald | 6'3" | 195 | 31 | R | Mississippi |
| 39 | Waller, Trayvon | 5'11" | 172 | 22 | R | Illinois |
| 24 | Weary, Fred | 5'10" | 181 | 27 | 4 | Florida |
| | **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| 4 | Gowin, Toby (P) | 5'10" | 167 | 26 | 5 | North Texas |
| 9 | Hall, Jeff (K) | 5'11" | 190 | 25 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 5 | Hilbert, Jon (K) | 6'2" | 222 | 26 | 1 | Louisville |
| 6 | LaFleur, Bill (P) | 5'11" | 200 | 25 | R | Nebraska |
| 3 | Stockton, Kris (K) | 5'9" | 189 | 23 | R | Texas |

rewarded with his first Pro Bowl invite. The Saints lacked a reliable second option to Horn, so this off-season they signed Albert Connell, who had a disappointing 2000 with the Redskins but can redeem himself in New Orleans. Says Haslett, "I don't know if there are enough balls to go around."

Jake Reed returned to the Vikings, but the Saints re-signed Willie Jackson, who played well when Horn was hurt. Six of Jackson's 37 receptions went for touchdowns; he caught three more TDs in the wild-card game.

Tight end Cam Cleeland looks to rebound after spending the year on injured reserve.

Aaron Brooks

**Offensive Line** All five of New Orleans' O-linemen started every game last year, and it showed as the unit got more comfortable as the season progressed.

The Saints especially like their tackles, led by perennial Pro Bowler Willie Roaf. He has shown few signs of slowing down. Right tackle Kyle Turley is developing into a steady player.

Left guard Wally Williams fit in without much of a transition in his first season with the Saints, and center Jerry Fontenot might have more Pro Bowls in his future. Right guard Chris Naeole must win his job in training camp or the Saints will go with cheaper Tom Ackerman.

**Defensive Line** The Saints got more production from their line than any team in the league last season. La'Roi Glover was a candidate for NFL Defensive Player of the Year, an honor that went to Baltimore linebacker Ray Lewis. Glover led the league with 17 sacks, embarrassing one offensive lineman after another.

Glover wasn't alone in his relentless pursuit of QBs, and he won't be this year. End Joe Johnson had 12 sacks and gets upfield quickly off the snap. End Darren Howard (11 sacks) is equally nimble at dodging opposing tackles. The glue in the middle is 6'3", 310-pound tackle Norman Hand. The former Charger and Dolphin handles a lot of the dirty work as a run-stuffer.

**Linebackers** Darrin Smith moves from the middle to the outside to take over for veteran Mark Fields, who was released and joined the Rams. Keith Mitchell has developed into a solid all-around player, as he's able to generate some juice on blitzes. Charlie Clemons has never started in the NFL, but the former CFL standout will get his chance this season. Clemons missed all of last season after tearing his Achilles tendon while warming up for an exhibition game. Considering the great pass rush by the front four, the Saints backers need to focus mostly on the run and some pass coverage.

**Defensive Backs** The addition of free-agent safety Jay Bellamy upgrades a secondary that ranked 10th in the NFL against the pass. Strong safety Sammy Knight lends a hand against the run and knows how to read a pattern. The Saints re-signed cornerback Kevin Mathis, but the other spot is up for grabs with Fred Weary coming off an ACL injury. Steve Israel should challenge to start.

**Special Teams** Doug Brien was cut, leaving kicking duties wide open. Jeff Hall, a fill-in for the Rams in 2000 who spent the off-season with the XFL's Memphis Maniax, will compete with Jon Hilbert and Kris Stockton. The Saints would like more production from punter Toby Gowin, but they can't complain about Chad Morton's return stats. McAllister also will get some chances in the return game.

**Management** Mueller undid a lot of the mistakes from past management in his first season in New Orleans. In making the Saints a player in the free-agent market, Mueller, who's responsible for the arrivals of Blake, Brooks, Horn, Williams and Hand, was a consensus pick as executive of the year in 2000. Haslett, who wisely had a heart-to-heart with Williams after drafting McAllister, must continue to monitor that situation closely. A breakdown between management and Williams could sidetrack the club from its positive course.

*—Dennis Georgatos*

NFL (ROAF); TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Aaron Brooks showcased his passing, running and playmaking skills in leading the Saints to their first-ever playoff victory, and he gives them their best chance for continued success.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

The Saints' return to *Monday Night Football* could have playoff implications, as they host the St. Louis Rams on Dec. 17.

### KEY STAT

The Saints' pass rush was dominant last year; they led the league with 66 sacks, 11 more than runner-up Tennessee.

### GLUE GUY

Willie Roaf has survived some tough times in New Orleans, and the Pro Bowler has persevered to become a team leader.

Willie Roaf

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Deuce McAllister** RB, Ole Miss
He's peeking over Ricky Williams' shoulder.

3 **Sedrick Hodge** LB, North Carolina
Will start career as a reserve and special-teamer.

3 **Kenny Smith** DT, Alabama
If anything, he'll provide rest for Glover and Hand.

4 **Moran Norris** RB, Kansas
Needs to be ready if Terrelle Smith's back goes out.

5 **Onome Ojo** WR, UC-Davis
Extremely raw, but everybody loves his size.

6 **Mitch White** OT, Oregon State
He might eventually provide depth at right tackle.

5 **Ennis Davis** DT, USC
Injuries set him back, but he has time to grow.

---

The Saints did not upgrade their starting lineup in the draft, but then again, they didn't have a ton of holes to fill. There was a lot of commotion surrounding the selection of McAllister, in that it would signal Ricky Williams' departure. The Saints, however, were surprised the Mississippi star had dropped so far and weren't about to pass on a guy with so much talent—even with Williams around. New Orleans will find a way to get McAllister touches behind Williams and on special teams. And if Williams' delicate relationship with the team deteriorates, McAllister will move into the starting lineup.

# San Francisco 49ERS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

**QUARTERBACKS: 7**
Garcia is building a passing legacy of his own.

**RUNNING BACKS: 4**
Look for a committee of backs to replace Garner.

**RECEIVERS: 8**
Owens, Stokes fill vacuum left by Rice's departure.

**OFFENSIVE LINE: 8**
All five starters return for first time since 1992.

**DEFENSIVE LINE: 6**
Young, Stubblefield, Carter will be tough to stop.

**LINEBACKERS: 6**
Smith shepherds youth in Winborn and Peterson.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS: 7**
CBs Plummer, Webster move past growing pains.

**SPECIAL TEAMS: 4**
KR Williams and K Richey must be replaced.

**MANAGEMENT: 8**
GM Donahue an able replacement for Walsh.

**OVERALL: 6.5**
Respectability within reach after two down years.

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**3rd in NFC West**

## 49ERS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Steve Mariucci (37-31 with San Francisco)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Jeff Garcia | 355-561, 4,278 yds, 31 TDs |
| RB | Kevan Barlow (R) | 197 car, 1,053 yds, 8 TDs* |
| FB | Fred Beasley | 50 car, 147 yds, 3 TDs |
| TE | Greg Clark | 38 rec, 342 yds, 2 TDs |
| WR | Terrell Owens | 97 rec, 1,451 yds, 13 TDs |
| WR | J.J. Stokes | 30 rec, 524 yds, 3 TDs |
| LT | Derrick Deese | 13 games, 13 starts |
| LG | Ray Brown | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Jeremy Newberry | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Dave Fiore | 15 games, 15 starts |
| RT | Scott Gragg | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | John Engelberger | 30 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DT | Dana Stubblefield (WAS) | 40 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| DT | Bryant Young | 45 tackles, 9.5 sacks |
| DE | Andre Carter (R) | 59 tackles, 13 sacks* |
| LB | Julian Peterson | 46 tackles, 4 sacks |
| LB | Derek Smith (WAS) | 88 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Jamie Winborn (R) | 105 tackles, 3 sacks* |
| CB | Ahmed Plummer | 75 tackles, 0 INTs |
| CB | Jason Webster | 55 tackles, 2 INTs |
| SS | John Keith | 18 tackles, 1 INT |
| FS | Lance Schulters | 91 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Jamie Rheem (R) | 49-50 XPs, 17-20 FGs* |
| P | Chad Stanley | 69 punts, 39.5 avg |
| KR | Paul Smith | 9 KR, 18.6 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | David Allen (R) | 12 PR, 10.3 avg, 0 TDs* |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Tom Batta, TEs; Chris Beake, def. asst.; Dwaine Board, DL; Bruce DeHaven, special teams; Terrell Jones, strength and conditioning; Greg Knapp, offensive coordinator; Brett Maxie, asst. DBs; Jim Mora, defensive coordinator; Patrick Morris, OL; Tom Rathman, RBs; Richard Smith, LBs; George Stewart, WRs; Andy Sugarman, off. asst.

# Niners back on track with youth movement

For the better part of 20 years, the 49ers knew nothing but success. When the dynasty finally unraveled two years ago, it fell hard, tumbling to a 4-12 campaign in 1999.

As good as they were at maintaining their run of success through the 1980s and '90s, the 49ers hope they're even better at rebuilding. They got off to a good start last season and hope to take their project one step further this year.

"We didn't have much of a dark hole where we were free falling," says Bill Walsh, the Hall of Fame coach who returned for a three-year run as general manager before turning the job over to Terry Donahue in April. "We really had only one horrendous year, and then we began to rebuild through the draft and with some key acquisitions, Jeff Garcia certainly being one of them."

Over the past year, the 49ers worked through an ownership change, salary cap problems, a roster overhaul and a transition at quarterback that marked the first time in two decades the team had someone other than Steve Young or Joe Montana calling the plays.

CHRIS STANFORD/ALLSPORT

***Although Jerry Rice is gone, San Francisco still has a treat in record-setter Owens.***

The 49ers fielded the NFC's least-experienced team last year, and though they suffered growing pains, they showed signs of progress by winning four of their last six games. More important, a core of young players, including five defenders who started as rookies, gained valuable experience.

"This organization understands what we want to accomplish, and they're making all the right moves to get it done," defensive tackle Bryant Young says.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | ATLANTA | 4:15 |
| Sept. 16 | at New Orleans | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | ST. LOUIS | 4:15 |
| Oct. 1 | at New York Jets | 9:00 |
| Oct. 7 | CAROLINA | 8:30 |
| Oct. 14 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 28 | at Chicago | 1:00. |
| Nov. 4 | DETROIT | 4:05 |
| Nov. 11 | NEW ORLEANS | 4:15 |
| Nov. 18 | at Carolina | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | at Indianapolis | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | BUFFALO | 8:30 |
| Dec. 9 | at St. Louis | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | MIAMI | 4:05 |
| Dec. 22 | PHILADELPHIA | 4:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Dallas | 1:00 |

3COM PARK (69,734)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

6-10, 4th in NFC WEST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Atlanta | L, 28-36 |
| Sept. 10 | CAROLINA | L, 22-38 |
| Sept. 17 | at St. Louis | L, 24-41 |
| Sept. 24 | at Dallas | W, 41-24 |
| Oct. 1 | ARIZONA | W, 27-20 |
| Oct. 8 | OAKLAND | L, 28-34 |
| Oct. 15 | at Green Bay | L, 28-31 |
| Oct. 22 | at Carolina | L, 16-34 |
| Oct. 29 | ST. LOUIS | L, 24-34 |
| Nov. 5 | at New Orleans | L, 15-31 |
| Nov. 12 | KANSAS CITY | W, 21-7 |
| Nov. 19 | ATLANTA | W, 16-6 |
| Dec. 3 | at San Diego | W, 45-17 |
| Dec. 10 | NEW ORLEANS | L, 27-31 |
| Dec. 17 | CHICAGO | W, 17-0 |
| Dec. 23 | at Denver | L, 9-38 |

**Quarterbacks** Garcia, who spent five years in the CFL before joining the 49ers in 1999 at Walsh's urging, handled the succession at quarterback with aplomb. He threw for a team-record 4,278 yards passing—Young had held the record with 4,170—in his first full season as the starter, earning a trip to the Pro Bowl. Along the way, Garcia went from being perceived as a stopgap solution to the starter for the foreseeable future.

Depth at quarterback could become an issue should the 49ers fail in their bid to re-sign Rick Mirer. Tim Rattay was the 49ers' third quarterback as a rookie. Giovanni Carmazzi, a third-round pick who struggled to adjust to the 49ers' timing-based scheme, spent the off-season playing in NFL Europe and could figure in the mix with a strong training camp.

**Running Backs** The 49ers must replace two-time 1,000-yard rusher Charlie Garner, who joined the Oakland Raiders as a free agent. Toward that end, the 49ers used a third-round draft pick to select Pittsburgh running back Kevan Barlow, who flashed game-breaking potential during a college career that included a 272-yard, four-touchdown performance against West Virginia.

There's also a possibility that Garrison Hearst, sidelined by complications from an ankle fracture the last two years, could come back. Second-year men Paul Smith and Jonas Lewis also will be competing for time.

"We might be using four of them every game until one guy surfaces as the man who merits more carries," coach Steve Mariucci says. "Until that day, we've got a stable of backs rather than a featured back."

Fred Beasley and Terry Jackson will handle the fullback chores.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The 49ers are embarking on the post-Jerry Rice era. After a brilliant 16-year career in San Francisco, Rice was set to be released after June 1 in a cost-cutting move. He will be playing elsewhere come Sept. 9.

The torch was passed to Terrell Owens, figuratively and literally, when he caught an NFL-record 20 passes for a career-best 283 yards in Rice's final

## 2000 49ERS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 377.5 (4) | 112.6 (18) | 264.9 (4) | 24.3 (6t) | 15 (9t) | 32 (4) | 4.3 (7t) | 12.0 (9t) | 25 (3) | 334 (5) | 41.6 (9) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 356.8 (29) | 112.1 (16) | 244.7 (29) | 26.4 (28) | 22 (29) | 25 (23t) | 4.1 (15t) | 13.1 (28) | 38 (18t) | 13 (24) | 2 (13t) |

## 2001 49ERS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 19 | Carmazzi, Giovanni | 6'3" | 224 | 24 | 2 | Hofstra |
| 5 | Garcia, Jeff | 6'1" | 195 | 31 | 3 | San Jose State |
| 3 | Mirer, Rick | 6'3" | 215 | 31 | 9 | Notre Dame |
| 13 | Rattay, Tim | 6'1" | 215 | 24 | 2 | Louisiana Tech |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 | Allen, David | 5'9" | 195 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 44 | Banks, Tommy (FB) | 6'0" | 271 | 23 | R | LSU |
| 32 | Barlow, Kevan | 6'1" | 238 | 22 | R | Pittsburgh |
| 40 | Beasley, Fred (FB) | 6'0" | 235 | 27 | 4 | Auburn |
| 20 | Hearst, Garrison | 5'11" | 215 | 30 | 9 | Georgia |
| 22 | Jackson, Terry | 6'0" | 232 | 25 | 3 | Florida |
| 43 | Lewis, Jonas | 5'9" | 210 | 24 | 2 | San Diego St. |
| 27 | Smith, Paul | 5'11" | 234 | 23 | 2 | UTEP |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | Alexander, Hilton | 6'1" | 183 | 23 | R | Morris Brown |
| 7 | Chatman, Antonio | 5'8" | 178 | 22 | R | Cincinnati |
| 85 | Clark, Greg (TE) | 6'4" | 251 | 29 | 5 | Stanford |
| 26 | Heard, Grant | 6'3" | 190 | 23 | R | Mississippi |
| 9 | Jackson, Steve | 5'11" | 185 | 24 | R | Hofstra |
| 86 | Jennings, Brian (TE) | 6'5" | 238 | 24 | 2 | Arizona State |
| 82 | Johnson, Eric (TE) | 6'3" | 256 | 21 | R | Yale |
| 25 | Jordan, James | 6'1" | 220 | 23 | R | Louisiana Tech |
| 81 | Owens, Terrell | 6'3" | 217 | 27 | 6 | UT-Chattanooga |
| 80 | Rice, Jerry | 6'2" | 196 | 38 | 17 | Miss. Valley St. |
| 83 | Stokes, J.J. | 6'4" | 217 | 28 | 7 | UCLA |
| 29 | Stokes, Keith | 5'7" | 177 | 22 | R | East Carolina |
| 89 | Streets, Tai | 6'1" | 193 | 24 | 3 | Michigan |
| 88 | Swift, Justin (TE) | 6'3" | 265 | 26 | 2 | Kansas State |
| 14 | Wilson, Cedric | 5'10" | 179 | 22 | R | Tennessee |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 65 | Brown, Ray (T) | 6'5" | 318 | 38 | 16 | Arkansas State |
| 79 | Call, Wes (T) | 6'7" | 320 | 22 | R | Washington |
| 76 | Costa, Dave (G) | 6'5" | 307 | 22 | R | Wisconsin |
| 67 | Dalman, Chris (G) | 6'3" | 297 | 31 | 9 | Stanford |
| 63 | Deese, Derrick (G) | 6'3" | 289 | 31 | 10 | USC |
| 74 | Fiore, Dave (T) | 6'4" | 290 | 27 | 6 | Hofstra |
| 78 | Gragg, Scott (T) | 6'8" | 325 | 29 | 7 | Montana |
| 66 | Hopson, Tyrone (T) | 6'2" | 305 | 25 | 3 | Eastern Kentucky |
| 60 | Lynch, Ben (C) | 6'4" | 295 | 28 | 3 | California |
| 64 | Milford, Stephenson (T) | 6'2" | 300 | 24 | R | Kansas State |
| 68 | McCurley, Jeff (C) | 6'4" | 294 | 22 | R | Pittsburgh |
| 62 | Newberry, Jeremy (C) | 6'5" | 315 | 25 | 4 | California |
| 77 | Willig, Matt (T) | 6'8" | 315 | 32 | 10 | USC |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 90 | Bryant, Junior (E) | 6'4" | 278 | 30 | 7 | Notre Dame |
| 96 | Carter, Andre (E) | 6'4" | 265 | 22 | R | California |
| 95 | Engelberger, John (E) | 6'4" | 260 | 24 | 2 | Virginia Tech |
| 76 | Hay, Shawn (E) | 6'4" | 250 | 23 | R | South Florida |
| 93 | Holloway, Menson (E) | 6'2" | 284 | 23 | R | UTEP |
| 71 | Killings, Cedric (T) | 6'2" | 290 | 23 | 2 | Carson-Newman |
| 79 | Mandina, Paul (T) | 6'3" | 311 | 23 | R | Indiana |
| 92 | McGrew, Reggie (T) | 6'1" | 301 | 24 | 3 | Florida |
| 99 | Milem, John (E) | 6'7" | 290 | 26 | 2 | Lenoir-Rhyne |
| 72 | Schlecht, John (T) | 6'0" | 279 | 23 | R | Minnesota |
| 94 | Stubblefield, Dana (T) | 6'2" | 315 | 30 | 9 | Kansas |
| 97 | Young, Bryant (T) | 6'3" | 291 | 29 | 8 | Notre Dame |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 59 | Elam, Shane | 6'1" | 240 | 23 | R | Mississippi |
| 56 | Lincoln, Alex | 6'1" | 251 | 23 | R | Auburn |
| 57 | Nofoaiga, Chris | 5'10" | 223 | 24 | R | Idaho |
| 91 | Okeafor, Chike | 6'4" | 248 | 25 | 3 | Purdue |
| 98 | Peterson, Julian | 6'3" | 235 | 23 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 52 | Rice, Al | 6'1" | 218 | 23 | R | Mississippi |
| 50 | Smith, Derek | 6'2" | 243 | 26 | 5 | Arizona State |
| 54 | Stewart, Quincy | 6'1" | 227 | 23 | R | Louisiana Tech |
| 49 | Swanson, Brennen | 6'2" | 238 | 24 | R | Cal St.-Northridge |
| 53 | Ulbrich, Jeff | 6'0" | 249 | 24 | 2 | Hawaii |
| 55 | Winborn, Jamie | 5'11" | 242 | 22 | R | Vanderbilt |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 19 | Allen, Mikki | 5'11" | 193 | 23 | 1 | Tennessee |
| 45 | Blades, Al | 6'0" | 207 | 24 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 31 | Bronson, Zack | 6'1" | 195 | 27 | 5 | McNeese State |
| 38 | Heard, Ronnie | 6'2" | 215 | 24 | 2 | Mississippi |
| 35 | Hill, Marcus | 6'3" | 217 | 25 | 1 | Angelo State |
| 26 | Holman, Rashad | 5'11" | 191 | 23 | R | Louisville |
| 28 | Keith, John | 6'0" | 207 | 24 | 2 | Furman |
| 24 | Montgomery, Monty | 5'11" | 197 | 27 | 5 | Houston |
| 33 | Moronkola, Dee | 5'8" | 192 | 34 | 2 | Washington St. |
| 47 | Ockimey, Ron | 6'2" | 202 | 23 | R | San Jose State |
| 21 | Parker, Anthony | 6'1" | 200 | 25 | 3 | Weber State |
| 29 | Plummer, Ahmed | 5'11" | 191 | 25 | 2 | Ohio State |
| 23 | Prioleau, Pierson | 5'10" | 191 | 24 | 2 | Virginia Tech |
| 30 | Schulters, Lance | 6'2" | 195 | 26 | 4 | Hofstra |
| 46 | Thatcher, J.T. | 5'10" | 224 | 23 | R | Oklahoma |
| 36 | Webster, Jason | 5'9" | 180 | 24 | 2 | Texas A&M |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Rheem, Jamie (K) | 6'1" | 192 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 4 | Stanley, Chad (P) | 6'3" | 205 | 25 | 3 | S.F. Austin |
| 6 | Cortez, Jose (K) | 5'11" | 205 | 26 | R | Oregon State |
| 1 | Cheek, Stephen (P) | 6'4" | 200 | 23 | R | Humboldt State |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

How will the temperamental Terrell Owens fare in his first season outside Jerry Rice's shadow?

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

After a year-long absence from *Monday Night Football*, the 49ers return to prime time Oct. 1 against the Jets. It's the teams' first meeting since Garrison Hearst's 96-yard TD run in overtime beat the Jets in the 1998 season opener.

### KEY STAT

The 49ers return intact an offensive line that allowed the third-fewest sacks (25) in the NFL.

### GLUE GUY

On a relatively young team, no one commands more respect than guard Ray Brown, a 16-year veteran who remains at the top of his game.

***Ray Brown***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Andre Carter** DE, Cal
Dynamic pass rusher who is compared to Charles Haley.

2 **Jamie Winborn** LB, Vanderbilt
Known for speed, toughness and hard-hitting play.

3 **Kevan Barlow** RB, Pittsburgh
Game-breaking potential; will be given shot to start.

6 **Cedrick Wilson** WR, Tennessee
Could return punts and play in long-yardage situations.

6 **Rashad Holman** CB, Louisville
Solid pass defender with 14 picks in college career.

6 **Menson Holloway** DT, UTEP
Moves to interior after stellar senior campaign at end.

7 **Alex Lincoln** LB, Auburn
Overachiever who rose from walk-on to starter to star.

7 **Eric Johnson** TE, Yale
Converted wideout must develop as a blocker.

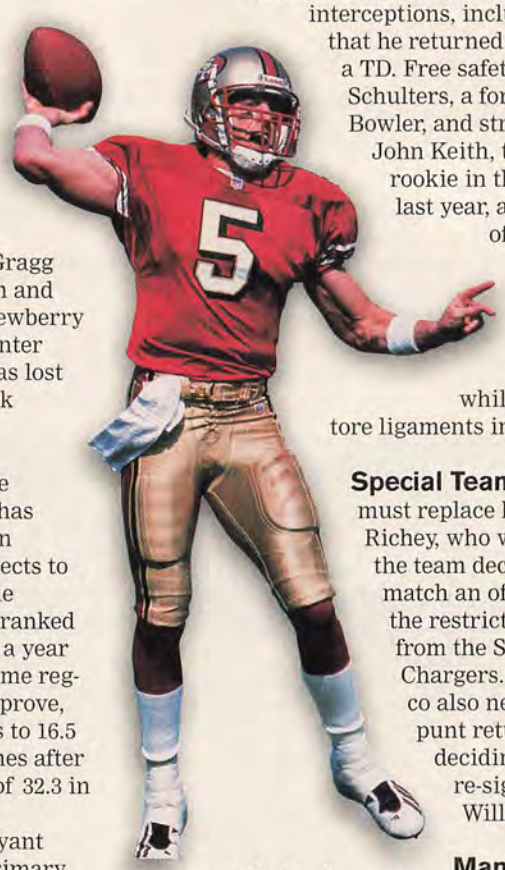
**A⁻** Bill Walsh traded up to steal Carter, who could become the terrorizing pass rusher the Niners have lacked for years. Walsh also tabbed Winborn and Barlow as potential starters, though his most interesting pick was his last—Yale's Johnson. Walsh was so insistent the 49ers draft Johnson, the outbound GM's associates in the team's war room took to calling Johnson "Bill's son." Johnson at one time played fullback and tailback before converting to tight end, but Walsh fell in love with his pass-catching skills, envisioning him as the next Brent Jones.

home game as a 49er last Dec. 17.

J.J. Stokes, who chafed for playing time behind Rice, will move into the starting lineup seven seasons after the 49ers traded up to make the former UCLA playmaker the 10th player drafted in 1995. Tai Streets, coming off a broken leg, is slated as the team's third wideout. Greg Clark, an emerging receiving threat, supports the offense as one of the league's best blocking tight ends.

**Offensive Line** A main reason the 49ers ranked fourth in total offense and sixth in average points scored was an offensive line that gave Garcia time to throw and allowed the team's runners to gain 4.3 yards per carry, well above the NFL average.

The 49ers made a point of keeping the line together, re-signing, restructuring or extending the contracts of tackles Derrick Deese and Scott Gragg and guards Ray Brown and Dave Fiore. Jeremy Newberry became a fixture at center after Chris Dalman was lost to a career-ending neck injury last summer.



***Jeff Garcia***

**Defensive Line** The 49ers' reconstruction has been most extensive on defense. The team expects to install two more rookie starters to a unit that ranked 29th in yards allowed, a year after five rookies became regulars. The unit did improve, though, holding teams to 16.5 ppg in the last six games after giving up an average of 32.3 in the first 10.

Defensive tackle Bryant Young is the team's primary defensive force, registering a team-high 9½ sacks despite fighting constant double teams. He'll have help this season from top draft pick end Andre Carter, a promising pass-rushing threat, and Dana Stubblefield, a former 49ers first-round pick who is back after three subpar seasons with Washington.

**Linebackers** Another former Redskin, Derek Smith, was signed as a free agent to anchor a linebacker corps depleted by the salary-cap-driven losses of Ken Norton and Winfred Tubbs. The 49ers believe Smith could be the run-stuffing middle linebacker they've lacked since Gary Plummer's retirement in 1997. Jamie Winborn, a second-round pick out of Vanderbilt, is projected as the starter at weakside linebacker, replacing Norton. Julian Peterson, last year's top draft pick, is back at outside linebacker. Peterson showed flashes as a pass rusher and demonstrated the speed to stay with running backs and tight ends in pass coverage.

**Defensive Backs** Cornerbacks Ahmed Plummer and Jason Webster were thrown into the lineup last season as rookies and withstood their baptism by fire. Both developed into solid cover men and tacklers and should be even better this year. Webster had two interceptions, including one that he returned 70 yards for a TD. Free safety Lance Schulters, a former Pro Bowler, and strong safety John Keith, the third rookie in the secondary last year, are coming off season-ending injuries. Keith broke his right arm while Schulters tore ligaments in his knee.

**Special Teams** The 49ers must replace kicker Wade Richey, who was lost when the team declined to match an offer sheet for the restricted free agent from the San Diego Chargers. San Francisco also needs to find a punt returner after deciding against re-signing Kevin Williams.

**Management** Mariucci promoted from within when offensive coordinator Marty Morhinweg took the head coaching job with the Detroit Lions. Greg Knapp, who as quarterbacks coach helped Garcia develop into a Pro Bowler, replaces Morhinweg. Former Purdue assistant Greg Olson, who coached Drew Brees, is the new QBs coach.

Walsh, 69, spent the past two years with Donahue as his apprentice and feels comfortable handing over the reins. And if the new GM hits a snag, he can always dial Walsh, who remains an adviser for the 49ers.

*—Dennis Georgatos*

NFL (BROWN); CRAIG JONES/ALLSPORT

# Michael's in the house, but when will he play?

From a moribund franchise with little prospects for improvement, the Atlanta Falcons have suddenly become a team with a future. And with quarterback Michael Vick in the fold, it promises to be an exhilarating, roller-coaster ride until they get there.

The stage was set for the move when pre-draft contract talks cooled between the San Diego Chargers and the then-20-year-old Virginia Tech star. Sensing an opening, the Falcons pitched a trade and wound up with the first pick, using it to bring Vick to Atlanta. The move lifted the spirits of the franchise and energized its fans.

Even long-suffering quarterback Chris Chandler, who led the Falcons to their only Super Bowl appearance three years ago but has struggled with injuries since, is excited by the acquisition. "I think drafting Michael Vick is a great move for the future of the Atlanta Falcons," Chandler says. "I am not going to play football forever. Michael is a talented and exciting football player, and I am looking forward to working with him and helping him develop.

TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

***Atlanta hopes Vick, who signed a $62 million deal, takes flight sooner rather than later.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **5** |
| Chandler's effective, but when will Vick get a shot? | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **5** |
| Anderson's knee held up for a full 16 games. | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **4** |
| Listless production from Mathis-Jefferson duo. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **2** |
| Chandler can blame it for weekly poundings. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **2** |
| It's been too easily handled by the opposition. | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **5** |
| With Brooking and Tuggle back, the unit is solid. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **8** |
| Buchanan, Ambrose form top-flight CB tandem. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **6** |
| Somehow, they have to replace Morten Andersen. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **5** |
| Will Reeves last to see fruits of rebuilding project? | |
| **OVERALL:** | **4.5** |
| Until Vick's ready, the Falcons won't go very far. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**4th in NFC West**

## FALCONS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dan Reeves (32-35 with Atlanta)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Chris Chandler | 192-331, 2,236 yds, 10 TDs |
| RB | Jamal Anderson | 282 car, 1,024 yds, 6 TDs |
| FB | Bob Christian | 9 car, 19 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Reggie Kelly | 31 rec, 340 yds, 2 TDs |
| WR | Terance Mathis | 57 rec, 679 yds, 5 TDs |
| WR | Shawn Jefferson | 60 rec, 822 yds, 2 TDs |
| LT | Bob Whitfield | 15 games, 15 starts |
| LG | Calvin Collins | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Todd McClure | 9 games, 7 starts |
| RG | Travis Claridge | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Ephraim Salaam | 14 games, 10 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Brady Smith | 34 tackles, 4.5 sacks |
| DT | Shane Dronett | 8 tackles, 1 sack |
| DT | Travis Hall | 63 tackles, 4.5 sacks |
| DE | Patrick Kerney | 45 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| LB | Keith Brooking | 36 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Jessie Tuggle | 33 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Mark Simoneau | 47 tackles, 0.5 sacks |
| CB | Ashley Ambrose | 38 tackles, 4 INTs |
| CB | Ray Buchanan | 80 tackles, 6 INTs |
| SS | Marty Carter | 95 tackles, 2 sacks |
| FS | Ronnie Bradford | 69 tackles, 3 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Jake Arians | 0-0 XPs, 0-0 FGs |
| P | Chris Mohr (BUF) | 95 punts, 38.5 avg |
| KR | Darrick Vaughn | 39 KR, 27.7 avg, 3 TDs |
| PR | Vinny Sutherland (R) | 16 PR, 9.9 avg, 0 TDs* |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Don Blackmon, defensive coordinator; Greg Brown, DBs; Jack Burns, QBs; James Daniel, TEs; Billy Davis, LBs; Joe DeCamillis, special teams; Bill Johnson, DL; Thom Kaumeyer, def. asst.; Pete Mangurian, OL; Al Miller, strength and conditioning; George Sefcik, offensive coordinator/RBs; Rennie Simmons, asst. OL; Gary Stevens, WRs; Ed West, off. asst.

"At the same time, I am going to continue to work hard, play hard and help get this team back to the level that I know we can play at."

Little has gone right for the Falcons since a 14-2 campaign in 1998 that ended in a loss to Denver in Super Bowl XXXIII. The Falcons have won just nine of 32 games since, including last year's 4-12 finish.

But Vick's arrival was welcomed as a sign that, finally, better times lie ahead. "This is great for this franchise and great for this city because this is an exceptional talent," says Falcons coach Dan Reeves, who was Denver's coach in 1983 when the Broncos acquired John Elway in a deal with the Baltimore Colts. "This is a young man who comes along, in my opinion, just every now and then."

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at San Francisco | 4:15 |
| Sept. 16 | at St. Louis | 4:05 |
| Sept. 23 | CAROLINA | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at Arizona | 4:05 |
| Oct. 7 | CHICAGO | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at New Orleans | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 4 | NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | DALLAS | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at Green Bay | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | at Carolina | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | ST. LOUIS | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | NEW ORLEANS | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Indianapolis | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Miami | 1:00 |

GEORGIA DOME (71,228)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
### 4-12, 5th in NFC WEST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | SAN FRANCISCO | W, 36-28 |
| Sept. 10 | at Denver | L, 14-42 |
| Sept. 17 | at Carolina | W, 15-10 |
| Sept. 24 | ST. LOUIS | L, 20-41 |
| Oct. 1 | at Philadelphia | L, 10-38 |
| Oct. 8 | NEW YORK GIANTS | L, 6-13 |
| Oct. 15 | at St. Louis | L, 29-45 |
| Oct. 22 | NEW ORLEANS | L, 19-21 |
| Oct. 29 | CAROLINA | W, 13-12 |
| Nov. 5 | TAMPA BAY | L, 14-27 |
| Nov. 12 | at Detroit | L, 10-13 |
| Nov. 19 | at San Francisco | L, 6-16 |
| Nov. 26 | at Oakland | L, 14-41 |
| Dec. 3 | SEATTLE | L, 10-30 |
| Dec. 17 | at New Orleans | L, 7-23 |
| Dec. 24 | KANSAS CITY | W, 29-13 |

**Quarterbacks** The 35-year-old Chandler's health has been a major factor in the Falcons' fortunes, which is why the organization has invested $62 million in Vick. Since 1997, the Falcons are 25-15 when Chandler has started and lasted without leaving the game due to injury. In the same span, the Falcons are 2-8 in games he's missed with injuries.

Though Chandler quietly remains one of the game's most effective quarterbacks, injuries have taken a toll. He missed all or parts of four games last season with a rib injury and a concussion. The Falcons acquired journeyman Eric Zeier to back up Chandler, but the coaching staff is determined to work in Vick as much as possible to help speed his adjustment to the NFL.

There has been some concern that Vick's time in a relatively unsophisticated system at Virginia Tech could slow his progress. The Chargers had planned to let Vick learn by watching from the sidelines for a year. Reeves says he won't rush his top draft choice, but Vick also won't just spend the season standing around.

"My experience with young quarterbacks," Reeves says, "is that they learn by being on the field. Whatever that package is, we've got to get him involved."

**Running Backs** After missing virtually all of 1999 with a torn knee ligament, Jamal Anderson returned to start every game last year, reaching the 1,000-yard plateau with a 107-yard performance in the season finale. It was the fourth time Anderson has rushed for 1,000-plus yards in his seven-year career. Though Anderson was used a lot less in 2000 (282 carries) than in '98—that year he set the NFL's single-season mark for carries with 410—it was plenty evident he had lost a step. He averaged only 3.6 yards per carry and posted just two 100-yard days.

The bright side is that Anderson held up, gaining more momentum as the year wore on. He should be a stronger, more confident runner two years removed from surgery.

## 2000 FALCONS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 249.6 (30) | 75.9 (28) | 173.8 (24) | 15.8 (27) | 6 (29t) | 14 (25t) | 3.5 (26t) | 11.1 (21) | 61 (30) | 256 (25) | 28.9 (30) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 350.4 (25) | 123.9 (27) | 226.5 (24) | 25.8 (26) | 16 (24) | 23 (17t) | 4.4 (24t) | 12.3 (25) | 30 (24) | 15 (21t) | -9 (23t) |

## 2001 FALCONS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | Chandler, Chris | 6'4" | 226 | 35 | 14 | Washington |
| 11 | Johnson, Doug | 6'2" | 226 | 23 | 2 | Florida |
| 13 | Kanell, Danny | 6'3" | 218 | 27 | 6 | Florida State |
| | Vick, Michael | 6'0" | 214 | 21 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 16 | Zeier, Eric | 6'1" | 214 | 28 | 7 | Georgia |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 32 | Anderson, Jamal | 5'11" | 235 | 28 | 8 | Utah |
| 44 | Christian, Bob | 5'11" | 232 | 32 | 9 | Northwestern |
| 45 | Downs, Gary | 6'1" | 210 | 29 | 8 | N.C. State |
| 32 | Jervey, Travis | 6'0" | 222 | 29 | 7 | The Citadel |
| 43 | McLeod, Kevin | 6'0" | 252 | 26 | 2 | Auburn |
| 20 | Rivers, Ron | 5'8" | 207 | 29 | 7 | Fresno State |
| 43 | Smith, Maurice | 6'0" | 236 | 24 | 2 | N. Carolina A&T |
| 22 | Thomas, Rodney | 5'10" | 210 | 28 | 7 | Texas A&M |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 80 | Baker, Eugene | 6'0" | 177 | 25 | 3 | Kent State |
| | Crumpler, Alge (TE) | 6'2" | 264 | 23 | R | North Carolina |
| 86 | Finneran, Brian | 6'5" | 208 | 25 | 2 | Villanova |
| 84 | Jefferson, Shawn | 5'11" | 180 | 32 | 11 | Central Florida |
| 89 | Kelly, Reggie (TE) | 6'3" | 255 | 24 | 3 | Mississippi St. |
| 85 | Kozlowski, Brian (TE) | 6'3" | 250 | 30 | 8 | Connecticut |
| 81 | Mathis, Terance | 5'10" | 185 | 34 | 12 | New Mexico |
| | McCord, Quentin | 5'10" | 195 | 23 | R | Kentucky |
| 82 | Philyaw, Mareno | 6'3" | 210 | 23 | 1 | Troy State |
| 48 | Rackley, Derek (TE) | 6'4" | 260 | 24 | 2 | Minnesota |
| | Sutherland, Vinny | 5'8" | 188 | 23 | R | Purdue |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 76 | Banks, Chris (G) | 6'1" | 300 | 28 | 4 | Kansas |
| 71 | Claridge, Travis (G) | 6'5" | 308 | 23 | 2 | USC |
| 68 | Collins, Calvin (C) | 6'2" | 310 | 27 | 5 | Texas A&M |
| | Forney, Kynan (G) | 6'2" | 300 | 22 | R | Hawaii |
| | Garza, Robert (C) | 6'2" | 292 | 22 | R | Texas A&M-Kings. |
| 64 | Hallen, Bob (C) | 6'4" | 305 | 26 | 4 | Kent State |
| 62 | McClure, Todd (C) | 6'1" | 300 | 24 | 3 | LSU |
| 63 | Pilgrim, Evan (G) | 6'4" | 298 | 29 | 7 | BYU |
| 61 | Redmon, Anthony (G) | 6'5" | 308 | 30 | 8 | Auburn |
| 74 | Salaam, Ephraim (T) | 6'7" | 305 | 25 | 4 | San Diego St. |
| 67 | Shivers, Wes (G) | 6'5" | 321 | 24 | 1 | Mississippi St. |
| 67 | Snellings, Paul (T) | 6'4" | 295 | 25 | 1 | Georgia |
| 66 | Thompson, Michael (T) | 6'4" | 318 | 24 | 2 | Tennessee St. |
| 70 | Whitfield, Bob (T) | 6'5" | 318 | 39 | 10 | Stanford |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 92 | Carr, William (T) | 6'0" | 302 | 26 | R | Michigan |
| 75 | Dronett, Shane (T) | 6'6" | 300 | 30 | 9 | Texas |
| | Flemons, Ronald (E) | 6'5" | 255 | 21 | R | Texas A&M |
| | Garner, Randy (E) | 6'3" | 273 | 23 | R | Arkansas |
| 98 | Hall, Travis (E) | 6'5" | 297 | 29 | 7 | BYU |
| 95 | Jasper, Edward (T) | 6'2" | 295 | 28 | 5 | Texas A&M |
| 97 | Kerney, Patrick (E) | 6'5" | 272 | 24 | 3 | Virginia |
| 77 | McDaniels, Pellom (E) | 6'3" | 280 | 33 | 8 | Oregon State |
| 73 | Moore, Ron (E) | 6'2" | 326 | 24 | R | NW Oklahoma St. |
| 91 | Smith, Brady (E) | 6'5" | 270 | 28 | 6 | Colorado State |
| 93 | Swayda, Shawn (E) | 6'5" | 294 | 26 | 4 | Arizona State |
| 99 | Wiley, Chuck (E) | 6'5" | 282 | 26 | 4 | LSU |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | Atkins, Corey | 6'0" | 227 | 24 | 2 | South Carolina |
| 55 | Bordano, Chris | 6'1" | 248 | 26 | 3 | SMU |
| 56 | Brooking, Keith | 6'2" | 245 | 25 | 4 | Georgia Tech |
| 94 | Crockett, Henri | 6'2" | 238 | 26 | 5 | Floida State |
| 54 | Draft, Chris | 5'11" | 230 | 25 | 3 | Stanford |
| 55 | Jordan, Antony | 6'3" | 240 | 26 | 4 | Vanderbilt |
| 51 | Kelly, Jeff | 5'11" | 245 | 25 | 3 | Kansas State |
| 53 | Simoneau, Mark | 6'0" | 233 | 24 | 2 | Kansas State |
| | Stewart, Matt | 6'3" | 232 | 22 | R | Vanderbilt |
| 58 | Tuggle, Jessie | 5'11" | 232 | 36 | 15 | Valdosta State |
| 50 | Ulmer, Artie | 6'2" | 247 | 28 | 4 | Valdosta State |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 33 | Ambrose, Ashley | 5'10" | 185 | 30 | 10 | Miss. Valley St. |
| 23 | Bradford, Ronnie | 5'10" | 198 | 30 | 9 | Colorado |
| 34 | Buchanan, Ray | 5'9" | 186 | 30 | 9 | Louisville |
| 25 | Carter, Marty | 6'1" | 210 | 31 | 11 | Mid. Tenn. St. |
| 35 | Carty, Johndale | 6'0" | 202 | 24 | 3 | Utah State |
| | Hall, Corey | 6'4" | 190 | 22 | R | Appalachian St. |
| 41 | Hamilton, Conrad | 5'10" | 195 | 26 | 4 | E. New Mexico |
| 47 | Hudson, Chris | 5'10" | 199 | 29 | 5 | Colorado |
| 22 | McBurrows, Gerald | 5'11" | 210 | 27 | 7 | Kansas |
| 37 | Vaughn, Darrick | 5'11" | 190 | 22 | 2 | SW Texas St. |
| 21 | Williams, Elijah | 5'10" | 180 | 26 | 4 | Florida |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Arians, Jake (K) | 5'10" | 191 | 23 | R | UAB |
| | Holleman, Chad (K) | 5'11" | 200 | 25 | 1 | Georgia |
| 9 | Mohr, Chris (P) | 6'5" | 215 | 35 | 12 | Alabama |

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Terance Mathis registered a franchise-record seventh straight season with 50 or more catches, but his productivity suffered due to the Falcons' problems at quarterback. Against the 49ers in November, he was held without a catch, ending a streak of 59 straight games with at least one. Mathis will again team up with Shawn Jefferson, who like Mathis is entering his mid-30s. Tight end Reggie Kelly has come along as a receiving threat, and second-round pick Alge Crumpler also figures to get some time.

**Offensive Line** Bob Whitfield has established himself as one of the league's premier left tackles, but stability and continuity are the key to an effective offensive line. After juggling linemen early last year, the Falcons made a point of trying to keep their line together. They re-signed right tackle Ephraim Salaam. Travis Claridge has settled in at right guard after starting his career at tackle a year ago. Center Todd McClure and left guard Calvin Collins also are back. With the line in place, the Falcons are hoping for an improvement over last year's 30th ranking in total offense.

**Defensive Line** Shane Dronett is back to anchor the middle of the line after injuries knocked him out of the last 13 games of the 2000 season. His return should benefit Travis Hall, a run-stuffing interior presence. The Falcons hope to get more production from their ends, Patrick Kerney and Brady Smith, who combined for just seven sacks last season.

**Linebackers** As with their defensive line and quarterback positions, injuries took a toll on the Falcons' linebackers last season. Keith Brooking and Jessie Tuggle were playing well when each went down with season-ending injuries. Both are now healthy, and Atlanta, which is thin at the position, needs them to stay that way. Mark Simoneau, a former Kansas State standout who is effective against the run, rounds out a linebacker corps that promises to be solid if healthy.

**Defensive Backs** The secondary is again shaping up to be one of the Falcons' strengths. Ashley Ambrose and Ray Buchanan, who was re-signed during the off-season, form one of the best cornerback tandems in the league. Ambrose had four interceptions, returning one for a touchdown, and Buchanan had six picks to go with 20 passes defensed and 80 tackles, 72 of which were solos.

Ronnie Bradford made a successful transition to free safety last season after starting 40 of his first 46 games with the Falcons at right cornerback. Strong safety Marty Carter just missed his fifth career 100-tackle season.

**Special Teams** The Falcons are about to find out about life without Morten Andersen. The 41-year-old lefty was not re-signed this off-season. Now, instead of turning to one of the NFL's great clutch kickers when it's time for a field goal, the Falcons will be relying on unproven Jake Arians, an NFL tenderfoot they signed last year as an undrafted free agent, or young Chad Holleman.

*Jamal Anderson*

Rookie Vinny Sutherland will take over at punt returner for Tim Dwight, who went to San Diego in the trade that landed Vick. The kick returner job is in good hands with Darrick Vaughn, who took three back for TDs last season.

**Management** Reeves was on the ropes after a second straight losing season. But like the franchise and city, he has been re-energized by the acquisition of Vick and the promise the young, playmaking scrambler represents.

Owner Taylor Smith deserves credit for pulling the trigger to draft Vick, whose potential has been questioned by critics who claim he's no sure thing. Reeves, whose relationship with Elway eroded over the years in Denver, is determined to make it work with Vick while trying to bring out the best in him on the field.

*—Dennis Georgatos*

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

The explosive Michael Vick is aching to show the Chargers that they made a big mistake. While intent on not rushing him, coach Dan Reeves will make sure Vick gets some snaps.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Atlanta's home opener Sept. 23 will give Georgia Dome fans their first chance to scream for Vick. The screeching will get louder when Chandler throws an interception.

### KEY STAT

The Falcons had the second worst offense in the league, averaging 249.6 yards a game.

### GLUE GUY

CB Ray Buchanan thinks Atlanta's close to being a good team. He re-signed in March, a move embraced by teammates.

***Ray Buchanan***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Michael Vick** QB, Virginia Tech
Incredible skills, but he's not ready to be an NFL starter.

2 **Alge Crumpler** TE, North Carolina
Solid blocker who also may emerge as a receiving threat.

4 **Robert Garza** C, Texas A&M-Kingsville
Provides needed depth along the offensive line.

4 **Matt Stewart** LB, Vanderbilt
Tough, powerful hitter who can be a tackling machine.

5 **Vinny Sutherland** WR, Purdue
Reliable receiver and returner in the Tim Dwight mold.

6 **Randy Garner** DE, Arkansas
Uses tremendous upfield burst to beat blockers.

7 **Corey Hall** S, Appalachian State
Small-school standout who will chip in on special teams.

7 **Kynan Forney** G, Hawaii
Quick off the ball; can gain leverage one-on-one.

7 **Ronald Flemons** DE, Texas A&M
Three-year college starter had nice senior year.

7 **Quentin McCord** WR, Kentucky
Has good speed and can create after the catch.

**B+** The seemingly directionless Falcons found their future in Vick, whom they picked No. 1 overall after trading up. The gutsy move gives Dirty Bird fans reason to practice their steps for the future. Crumpler is NFL-ready, but Atlanta really could have a used a talented wide receiver. Vinny Sutherland is scrappy and will fill Tim Dwight's role.

NFL (BUCHANAN); CRAIG JONES/ALLSPORT

# Carolina PANTHERS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Beuerlein's release puts inexperience under center. | 3 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Slumping Biakabutuka misses lead blocker Floyd. | 1 |
| **RECEIVERS:** Hayes, Jeffers, Muhammad are an underrated trio. | 7 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Free agency has rebuilt a tottering unit. | 5 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Smith, Buckner could bolster weak front four. | 4 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Ex-Hurricane Morgan provides hope. | 5 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Hitchcock is on the spot after Davis' release. | 4 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** A healthy Kasay is an accurate Kasay. | 7 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Seifert is no expert at rebuilding projects. | 5 |
| **OVERALL:** Things could get worse before they get better. | 4 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**5th in NFC West**

## PANTHERS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** George Seifert (15-17 with Carolina)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Jeff Lewis | 16-32, 120 yds, 0 TDs |
| RB | Tim Biakabutuka | 173 car, 627 yds, 2 TDs |
| FB | Chris Hetherington | 23 car, 65 yds, 2 TDs |
| TE | Wesley Walls | 31 rec, 422 yds, 2 TDs |
| WR | Patrick Jeffers | DNP-INJURED |
| WR | Muhsin Muhammad | 102 rec, 1,183 yds, 6 TDs |
| LT | Todd Steussie (MIN) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Jamar Nesbit | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Jeff Mitchell (BAL) | 14 games, 14 starts |
| RG | Kevin Donnalley (MIA) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Chris Terry | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Jay Williams | 27 tackles, 6 sacks |
| DT | Sean Gilbert | 53 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DT | Brentson Buckner (SF) | 55 tackles, 7 sacks |
| DE | Chuck Smith | 1 tackle, 0 sacks |
| LB | Dan Morgan (R) | 138 tackles, 4 sacks* |
| LB | Lester Towns | 93 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Dean Wells | 68 tackles, 1 INT |
| CB | Doug Evans | 79 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Jimmy Hitchcock | 30 tackles, 3 INTs |
| SS | Mike Minter | 116 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Rashard Anderson | 14 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | John Kasay | DNP-INJURED |
| P | Todd Sauerbrun (KC) | 82 punts, 44.6 avg |
| KR | Stevonne Smith (R) | 17 KR, 19.8 avg, 0 TDs* |
| PR | Stevonne Smith (R) | 43 PR, 8.5 avg, 1 TD* |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Paul Boudreau, OL; Don Breaux, TEs; Jacob Burney, DL; Chick Harris, RBs; Carlos Mainord, DBs; John Marshall, defensive coordinator; Mike McCoy, WRs; Sam Mills, LBs; Scott O'Brien, special teams; Alvin Reynolds, def. asst.; Greg Roman, off. asst.; Turk Schonert, QBs; Jerry Simmons, strength and conditioning; Richard Williamson, offensive coordinator

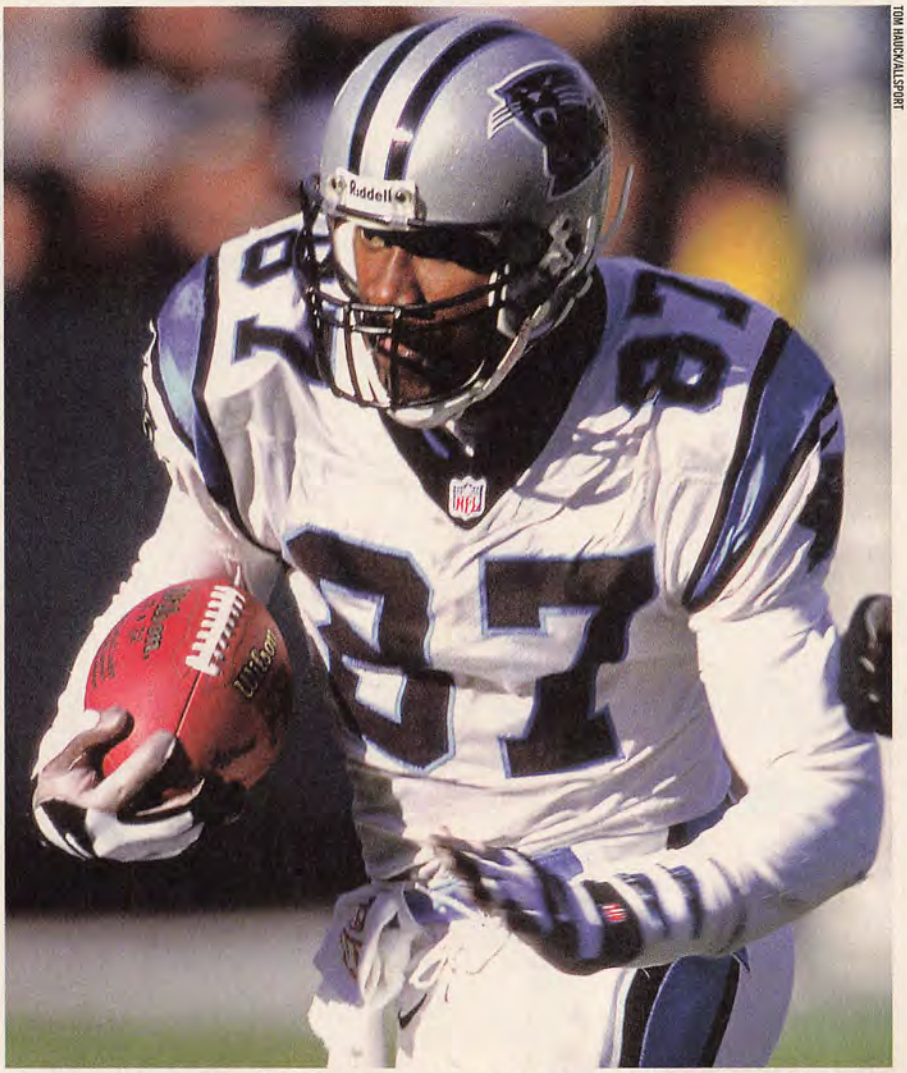
# Seifert taking chances on unproven QB talent

Usually when a team parts ways with a steady veteran quarterback, it has an up-and-coming QB ready to take the starting role. But in the Panthers' case, they released Steve Beuerlein without an obvious replacement in mind.

Could it be Jeff Lewis, the former Denver Broncos draft pick once viewed as John Elway's replacement? Or perhaps Dameyune Craig, whose pro experience consists solely of his trip to NFL Europe last spring? What about 29-year-old rookie Chris Weinke, a minor league baseball flameout turned Florida State hero who led the Seminoles to berths in the last three BCS title games?

"It's easy for me to be philosophical and say, 'Don't worry. We'll deal with it,'" Panthers coach George Seifert says. "[But] I imagine I'll be quite tight and talking with a squeaky voice as we get closer to the season."

Lewis was the announced frontrunner at press time, but Weinke hopes to be starting soon. The one-time Toronto Blue Jays farmhand and Heisman Trophy winner completed nearly 62% of



TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

***Muhammad, one of the NFL's best wideouts, heads Carolina's talented receiving trio.***

his passes while throwing 33 TDs to just 11 INTs as a senior. Still, he fell to the fourth round due to his age and because he threw poorly at the NFL combine and opted to skip the Senior Bowl.

"It makes it more exciting, absolutely," Seifert says of having Weinke vying for the starting job. "We've added another character to the mix, and it just so happens he's the Heisman Trophy winner."

Whomever starts hopes to benefit from an upgrade in an offensive line that had Beuerlein running for his life last season. He was sacked an NFL-high 62 times.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Minnesota | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | GREEN BAY | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | at San Francisco | 8:30 |
| Oct. 14 | NEW ORLEANS | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Washington | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | at Miami | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at St. Louis | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | at New Orleans | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at Buffalo | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | Open Date | |
| Dec. 23 | ST. LOUIS | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | ARIZONA | 1:00 |

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## 2000 RESULTS

7-9, 3rd in NFC WEST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Washington | L, 17-20 |
| Sept. 10 | at San Francisco | W, 38-22 |
| Sept. 17 | ATLANTA | L, 10-15 |
| Oct. 1 | DALLAS | L, 13-16 |
| Oct. 8 | SEATTLE | W, 26-3 |
| Oct. 15 | at New Orleans | L, 6-24 |
| Oct. 22 | SAN FRANCISCO | W, 34-16 |
| Oct. 29 | at Atlanta | L, 12-13 |
| Nov. 5 | at St. Louis | W, 27-24 |
| Nov. 12 | NEW ORLEANS | L, 10-20 |
| Nov. 19 | at Minnesota | L, 17-31 |
| Nov. 27 | GREEN BAY | W, 31-14 |
| Dec. 3 | ST. LOUIS | W, 16-3 |
| Dec. 10 | at Kansas City | L, 14-15 |
| Dec. 17 | SAN DIEGO | W, 30-22 |
| Dec. 24 | at Oakland | L, 9-52 |

which he rushed for just 627 yards, a 3.6 yards-per-carry average, and two TDs. This after a '99 campaign in which the Michigan product scored six times on the ground and averaged 5.2 yards per run.

As insurance on Biakabutuka, who has never played more than 12 games in five pro seasons, the Panthers signed free agent Adrian Murrell, who didn't play much in Washington.

Fullback Chris Hetherington takes over full-time for William Floyd, one of several veterans whose production didn't match his cap cost. Brad Hoover, who rushed for 290 yards last year, can fill in at either backfield slot.

**Quarterbacks** Though Lewis held the top spot on the depth chart in the spring, he hasn't done much to earn the assignment. Despite porous blocking and weekly poundings, Beuerlein did not miss much time last season, meaning Lewis rarely put the clipboard down. He attempted just 32 passes, one of which was picked off, and was sacked seven times. Still, a shove from Seifert had to give the fifth-year man confidence.

"I think it would be wrong to suggest that Jeff is going to be Steve Young running the football, because he's not," says Seifert, Young's one-time coach with the 49ers. "He's got good movement, but to say that he's a dynamic runner I think would be unrealistic. Dameyune has a little more of that."

Indeed, if former Auburn standout Craig sneaks past Lewis and Weinke, it would be on the strength of his mobility and speed.

**Running Backs** Tim Biakabutuka returns as the featured back after a disappointing, injury-filled season in

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Muhsin Muhammad emerged as one of the best receivers in the NFL last year, tying Indianapolis' Marvin Harrison for most catches (102) in the league. Muhammad had his second consecutive 1,000-yard season despite regular double teams, which showed opponents' lack of respect for fellow wideout Donald Hayes.

Hayes, however, turned out to be a pleasant surprise, averaging a team-best 14 yards a grab. He was re-signed, but won't start unless Patrick Jeffers, a

## 2000 PANTHERS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 290.9 (20) | 74.1 (29) | 216.8 (12) | 19.4 (21) | 7 (26t) | 19 (17t) | 3.3 (28t) | 11.3 (18t) | 69 (31) | 304 (15) | 39.4 (14t) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 353.5 (27) | 121.5 (26) | 232.0 (26) | 19.4 (12) | 12 (12t) | 19 (13t) | 4.6 (28t) | 11.2 (10t) | 27 (27t) | 17 (13t) | 3 (11t) |

## 2001 PANTHERS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Craig, Dameyune | 6'1" | 200 | 27 | 3 | Auburn |
| 8 | Lewis, Jeff | 6'2" | 211 | 28 | 5 | Northern Arizona |
| 16 | Weinke, Chris | 6'4" | 238 | 29 | R | Florida State |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | Biakabutuka, Tim | 6'0" | 215 | 27 | 6 | Michigan |
| 35 | Bowers, R.J. | 6'1" | 238 | 27 | R | Grove City |
| 20 | Brown, Dee | 5'11" | 209 | 23 | R | Syracuse |
| 34 | Dukes, Chad | 6'0" | 230 | 30 | 2 | Pittsburgh |
| 44 | Hetherington, Chris (FB) | 6'3" | 249 | 28 | 6 | Yale |
| 45 | Hoover, Brad (FB) | 6'2" | 225 | 24 | 2 | Western Carolina |
| 22 | Murrell, Adrian | 5'11" | 210 | 30 | 9 | West Virginia |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 84 | Broughton, Luther (TE) | 6'2" | 248 | 27 | 5 | Furman |
| 82 | Byrd, Isaac | 6'1" | 188 | 26 | 5 | Kansas |
| 14 | Hankton, Karl | 6'2" | 202 | 31 | 3 | Trinity (Ill.) |
| 81 | Hayes, Donald | 6'4" | 208 | 26 | 4 | Wisconsin |
| 10 | Hood, Kerry | 6'0" | 196 | 24 | 1 | South Carolina |
| 83 | Jeffers, Patrick | 6'3" | 218 | 28 | 5 | Virginia |
| 86 | Mangum, Kris (TE) | 6'4" | 249 | 28 | 4 | Mississippi |
| 87 | Muhammad, Muhsin | 6'2" | 217 | 28 | 6 | Michigan State |
| 47 | Roberg, Mike (TE) | 6'4" | 263 | 23 | R | Idaho |
| 89 | Smith, Steve | 5'9" | 179 | 21 | R | Utah |
| 80 | Turner, Jim | 6'4" | 212 | 25 | 1 | Syracuse |
| 89 | Uwaezuoke, Iheanyi | 6'2" | 198 | 28 | 6 | California |
| 85 | Walls, Wesley (TE) | 6'5" | 250 | 35 | 13 | Mississippi |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 75 | Blackman, Jon (T) | 6'6" | 271 | 25 | R | Purdue |
| 65 | Donnalley, Kevin (G) | 6'5" | 310 | 33 | 11 | North Carolina |
| 78 | James, Jeno (G) | 6'3" | 292 | 24 | 2 | Auburn |
| 75 | Jones, Clarence (T) | 6'6" | 300 | 33 | 11 | Maryland |
| 76 | Jordan, Leander (G) | 6'3" | 333 | 23 | 2 | Indiana (PA) |
| 60 | Mitchell, Jeff (C) | 6'4" | 300 | 27 | 5 | Florida |
| 63 | Nesbit, Jamar (C) | 6'4" | 330 | 24 | 3 | South Carolina |
| 73 | Steussie, Todd (T) | 6'6" | 316 | 30 | 8 | California |
| 67 | Stoltenberg, Bryan (C) | 6'1" | 300 | 29 | 6 | Colorado |
| 70 | Terry, Chris (T) | 6'5" | 295 | 26 | 3 | Georgia |
| 73 | Tuten, Melvin (T) | 6'6" | 305 | 29 | 5 | Syracuse |
| 66 | Williams, Louis (C) | 6'4" | 291 | 22 | R | LSU |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 99 | Buckner, Brentson (E) | 6'2" | 305 | 29 | 8 | Clemson |
| 74 | Chambers, Derrick (E) | 6'3" | 306 | 23 | R | Florida |
| 72 | Daniel, Robert (E) | 6'6" | 275 | 25 | 1 | NW State-La. |
| 68 | Deligianis, Harry (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 26 | 1 | Youngstown St. |
| 94 | Gilbert, Sean (T) | 6'5" | 318 | 31 | 9 | Pittsburgh |
| 77 | Jenkins, Kris (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 21 | R | Maryland |
| 71 | Lucas, Al (NT) | 6'1" | 294 | 23 | 2 | Troy State |
| 99 | McKinley, Alvin (T) | 6'3" | 292 | 23 | 2 | Mississippi St. |
| 90 | Morabito, Tim (T) | 6'3" | 296 | 27 | 6 | Boston College |
| 97 | Peter, Jason (E) | 6'4" | 295 | 26 | 4 | Nebraska |
| 93 | Rucker, Mike (E) | 6'5" | 258 | 26 | 3 | Nebraska |
| 91 | Smith, Chuck (E) | 6'2" | 262 | 31 | 10 | Tennessee |
| 96 | Williams, Jay (E) | 6'3" | 280 | 30 | 6 | Wake Forest |
| 92 | Wilson, Gillis (E) | 6'2" | 282 | 23 | 1 | Southern |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 58 | Childress, O.J. | 6'1" | 245 | 24 | 2 | Clemson |
| 50 | Green, Lamont | 6'3" | 230 | 25 | 1 | Florida State |
| 59 | Hawkes, Michael | 6'0" | 231 | 24 | 1 | Virginia Tech |
| 56 | Kyle, Jason | 6'3" | 242 | 29 | 7 | Arizona State |
| 41 | Merkerson, Ron | 6'2" | 247 | 26 | R | Colorado |
| 52 | Minor, Kory | 6'1" | 247 | 24 | 2 | Notre Dame |
| 55 | Morgan, Dan | 6'2" | 233 | 22 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 53 | Navies, Hannibal | 6'2" | 240 | 24 | 3 | Colorado |
| 55 | Renfro, Dusty | 6'0" | 239 | 24 | R | Texas |
| 57 | Towns, Lester | 6'1" | 252 | 24 | 2 | Washington |
| 95 | Wells, Dean | 6'3" | 248 | 31 | 9 | Kentucky |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 46 | Anderson, Rashard | 6'2" | 204 | 24 | 2 | Jackson State |
| 31 | Booth, Tony | 6'1" | 195 | 26 | 1 | James Madison |
| 33 | Evans, Doug | 6'1" | 190 | 31 | 9 | Louisiana Tech |
| 23 | Francis, Tony | 6'1" | 206 | 23 | 1 | Illinois |
| 27 | Grant, Deon | 6'2" | 207 | 22 | 1 | Tennessee |
| 38 | Grant, Kenneth | 5'10" | 207 | 22 | R | Kentucky |
| 29 | Green, Ray | 6'3" | 187 | 24 | 2 | South Carolina |
| 28 | Harper, Deveron | 5'11" | 187 | 23 | 2 | Notre Dame |
| 37 | Hitchcock, Jimmy | 5'10" | 187 | 30 | 7 | North Carolina |
| 42 | Howard, Reggie | 6'0" | 190 | 24 | 2 | Memphis |
| 30 | Minter, Mike | 5'10" | 188 | 27 | 5 | Nebraska |
| 39 | Richardson, Damien | 6'1" | 210 | 25 | 4 | Arizona State |
| 41 | Robinson, Eugene | 6'1" | 200 | 38 | 17 | Colgate |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Brice, Will (P) | 6'4" | 220 | 26 | 2 | Virginia |
| 4 | Kasay, John (K) | 5'10" | 198 | 31 | 10 | Georgia |
| 10 | Sauerbrun, Todd (P) | 5'10" | 213 | 28 | 7 | West Virginia |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

The Panthers are hoping for a better return from Chuck Smith, a $22 million free agent whose Carolina debut consisted of two games before a knee injury ended his season.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

By the Panthers' Nov. 4 game at Miami, former Hurricanes linebacker Dan Morgan and Florida State quarterback Chris Weinke could be playing major roles.

### KEY STAT

Carolina's offensive line gave up 69 sacks last season, the fourth-most in league history.

### GLUE GUY

Safety Mike Minter came on strong last year. Players rally around him because of his on-field assertiveness and savvy.

***Mike Minter***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Dan Morgan** LB, Miami (Fla.)
He's quick, aggressive and in a hurry to make an impact.

2 **Kris Jenkins** DT, Maryland
A Round 2 reach, he has skills to prove doubters wrong.

3 **Steve Smith** WR, Utah
Look for him to take over Michael Bates' return duties.

4 **Chris Weinke** QB, Florida State
Has the maturity and polish to compete for starting job.

5 **Jarrod Cooper** DB, Kansas State
His early contributions will come on special teams.

6 **Dee Brown** RB, Syracuse
Elusive back could provide a nice change of pace.

7 **Louis Williams** C, LSU
He's versatile, having played all five spots in college.

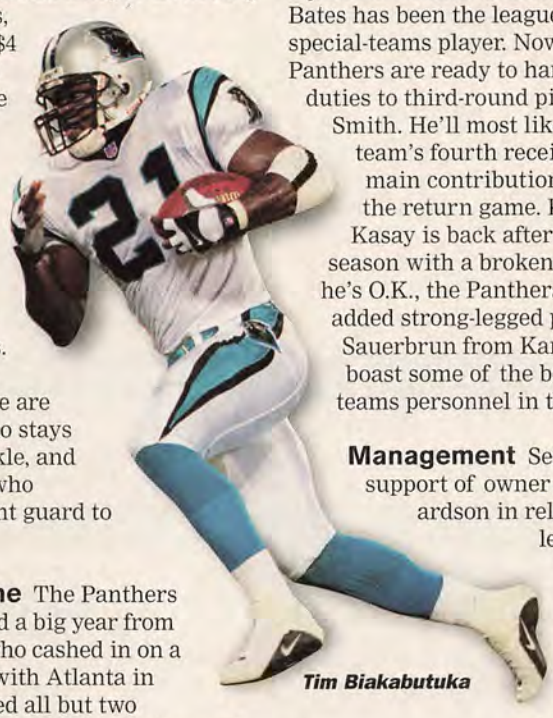
7 **Mike Roberg** TE, Idaho
Will learn from one of the NFL's best in Wesley Walls.

**C+** Drafting Morgan was a good move. Though he's had some injury problems—hamstring trouble cut short his minicamp—Morgan follows the ball well and is smothering against the run. He can play outside or inside. The Panthers needed help on the defensive front, but they waited until the second round, when Jenkins was the best guy available. Rounds three through seven were uninspiring save for Weinke, who will be 29 by the time the season starts. Still, he has a strong enough arm and the smarts to play this season.

1,000-yard receiver in 1999 who tore up his knee before last season, is slow returning to form. If Jeffers can get back into '99 shape, Carolina will boast a speedy trio of soft-handed receivers all younger than 29.

Outstanding tight end Wesley Walls tore an ACL at midseason last year, and at age 35 a full recovery is never a lock. That's why Carolina signed free agent Luther Broughton, a respected blocker, to play behind Kris Mangum should Walls need more time.

**Offensive Line** Major changes were needed on the line after last year's sack-fest by opponents. The Panthers will plug three free agents into the lineup, led by former Pro Bowl left tackle Todd Steussie, who was released by the Minnesota Vikings. Center Jeff Mitchell, who earned a Super Bowl ring with the Ravens, was awarded a $4 million signing bonus to replace Frank Garcia, now with the Rams. And right guard Kevin Donnalley lands in the lineup after being cut by the Dolphins. The only holdovers on the line are Chris Terry, who stays put at right tackle, and Jamar Nesbit, who moves from right guard to left guard.



***Tim Biakabutuka***

**Defensive Line** The Panthers desperately need a big year from Chuck Smith, who cashed in on a 10-sack season with Atlanta in 1999, then missed all but two games in 2000. Smith's production and leadership would ease the losses of Reggie White and Eric Swann, both of whom retired.

White's pass-rush role will be filled by free-agent signee Brentson Buckner, who should start up front along with Jay Williams, last year's team sack leader, and Sean Gilbert. Swann's absence will not be as noticeable with Tim Morabito, Al Lucas and Kris Jenkins, a rookie from Maryland, adding depth.

**Linebackers** Top draft pick Dan Morgan becomes an immediate starter. Morgan takes over the weak side vacated when Lee Woodall was cut after just one season in Carolina. The Panthers, who ranked 26th against the run, need Butkus Award winner Morgan to bust up blocks and shut down running alleys. In short, they need him to bring an aggressive attitude to the D that has been missing. He can help make Lester Towns in the middle and Dean Wells on the strong side better.

**Defensive Backs** The re-signing of strong safety Mike Minter was key. He can fly around the field as a pure coverage guy, run-stopper and blitzer. The rest of the secondary is unsettled, with raw Rashard Anderson penciled in to start at free safety, unless Deon Grant rebounds from a broken hip to win the spot. Anderson then would be moved back to corner, where he'd have to battle Jimmy Hitchcock for playing time.

**Special Teams** Since 1995, Michael Bates has been the league's preeminent special-teams player. Now it appears the Panthers are ready to hand over his duties to third-round pick Steve Smith. He'll most likely be the team's fourth receiver, but his main contributions will come in the return game. Kicker John Kasay is back after missing the season with a broken kneecap. If he's O.K., the Panthers, who also added strong-legged punter Todd Sauerbrun from Kansas City, will boast some of the best special teams personnel in the league.

**Management** Seifert had the support of owner Jerry Richardson in releasing Beuerlein, despite the lack of proven QB talent. Says Seifert: "I might be the right guy for the job right now because of where I am in my coaching career. I'm able to make some of these moves and not be threatened by them so much. If I can build the right foundation, hopefully the foundation over the years will be better off."

The Panthers have spent a lot of money in the free-agent market the past several seasons and have yet to see much production. They concentrated on defense in 2000, then ranked 27th in the league in yards allowed. This off-season Carolina rebuilt its offensive line. But without the franchise's most prolific passer, this turnaround effort undoubtedly will take more time.

*—Dennis Georgatos*

NFL (MINTER); CRAIG JONES/ALLSPORT

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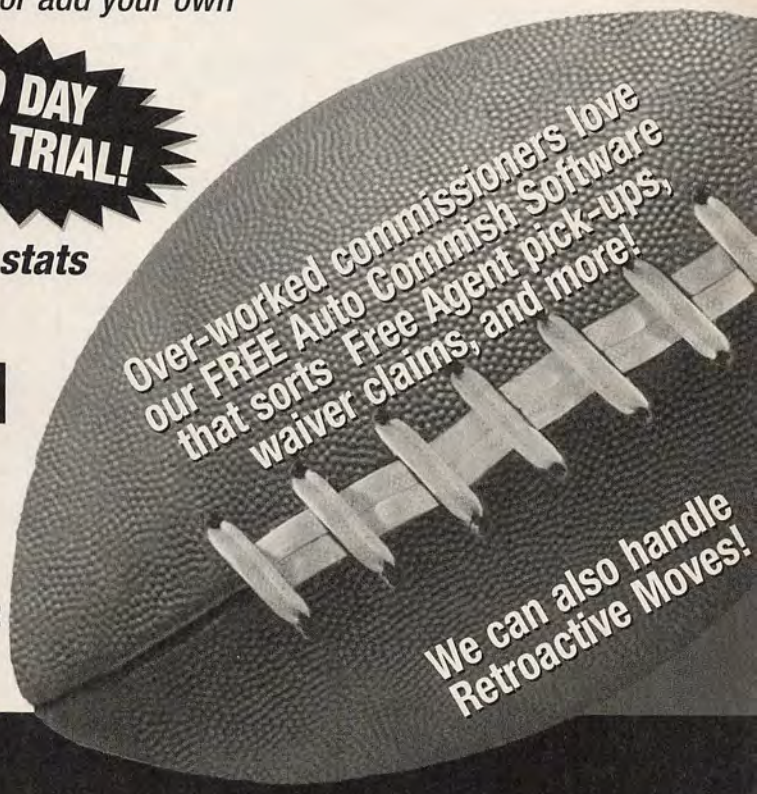
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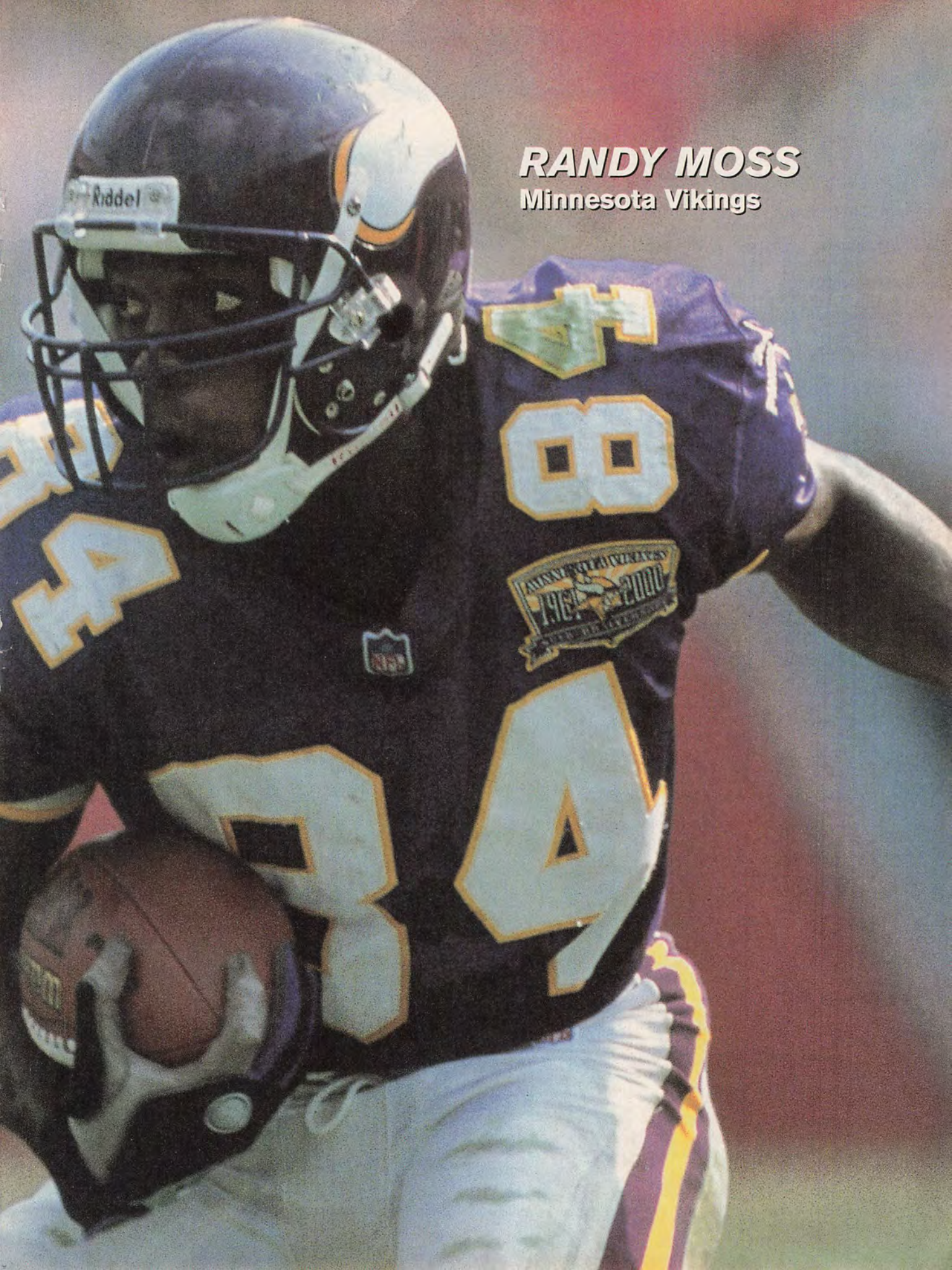
# PREVIEW Sports TOP 50

1. Randy Moss, WR *Minnesota*
2. Peyton Manning, QB *Indianapolis*
3. Marshall Faulk, RB *St. Louis*
4. Warren Sapp, DT *Tampa Bay*
5. Edgerrin James, RB *Indianapolis*
6. Ray Lewis, MLB *Baltimore*
7. Brett Favre, QB *Green Bay*
8. Tony Boselli, T *Jacksonville*
9. Champ Bailey, CB *Washington*
10. Jonathan Ogden, T *Baltimore*
11. Eddie George, RB *Tennessee*
12. Charles Woodson, CB *Oakland*
13. Jimmy Smith, WR *Jacksonville*
14. Kurt Warner, QB *St. Louis*
15. Marvin Harrison, WR *Indianapolis*
16. Michael Strahan, DE *New York Giants*
17. Orlando Pace, T *St. Louis*
18. Curtis Martin, RB *New York Jets*
19. Corey Dillon, RB *Cincinnati*
20. Jevon Kearse, DE *Tennessee*
21. Sam Madison, CB *Miami*
22. Derrick Brooks, LB *Tampa Bay*
23. Tony Gonzalez, TE *Kansas City*
24. Chris McAlister, CB *Baltimore*
25. Isaac Bruce, WR *St. Louis*
26. Terrell Owens, WR *San Francisco*
27. Junior Seau, LB *San Diego*
28. Eric Moulds, WR *Buffalo*
29. Keyshawn Johnson, WR *Tampa Bay*
30. Fred Taylor, RB *Jacksonville*
31. Bruce Matthews, G *Tennessee*
32. Tim Brown, WR *Oakland*
33. Cris Carter, WR *Minnesota*
34. Larry Allen, G *Dallas*
35. Samari Rolle, CB *Tennessee*
36. Drew Bledsoe, QB *New England*
37. Blaine Bishop, CB *Tennessee*
38. Rob Burnett, DE *Baltimore*
39. Hugh Douglas, DE *Philadelphia*
40. Jerome Bettis, RB *Pittsburgh*
41. Emmitt Smith, RB *Dallas*
42. Torry Holt, WR *St. Louis*
43. Rich Gannon, QB *Oakland*
44. Aeneas Williams, CB *St. Louis*
45. Kevin Mawae, C *New York Jets*
46. Brian Griese, QB *Denver*
47. La'Roi Glover, DT *New Orleans*
48. Mo Lewis, LB *New York Jets*
49. Trevor Pryce, DT *Denver*
50. Rod Smith, WR *Denver*

ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT


RANDY MOSS
Minnesota Vikings
Riddell
84
1961 2000

# Indianapolis COLTS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **9** | There are none better than Peyton Manning. |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **9** | James is capable of handling it all. |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **7.5** | Harrison's one of the best, but who's the No. 2? |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **7** | Not a bunch of mashers, but quick and durable. |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **5** | Half of a line isn't going to cut it. |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **6** | Peterson piles up stats, but youngsters are key. |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **5** | The Colts need some new faces to flourish. |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **7** | Kickers are fine, but return game needs help. |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **8** | Polian knows personnel; Mora knows how to win. |
| **OVERALL:** | **7.5** | If D comes around, Super Bowl berth is in reach. |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**1st in AFC East**

## COLTS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Jim Mora (26-24 with Indianapolis)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Peyton Manning | 357-571, 4,413 yds, 33 TDs |
| RB | Edgerrin James | 387 car, 1,709 yds, 13 TDs |
| FB | Jim Finn | 1 car, 1 yd, 0 TDs |
| TE | Ken Dilger | 47 rec, 538 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | Marvin Harrison | 102 rec, 1,413 yds, 14 TDs |
| WR | Jerome Pathon | 50 rec, 646 yds, 3 TDs |
| LT | Tarik Glenn | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Steve McKinney | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Jeff Saturday | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Larry Moore | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Adam Meadows | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Chad Bratzke | 64 tackles, 7.5 sacks |
| DT | Ellis Johnson | 40 tackles, 5 sacks |
| DT | Josh Williams | 42 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DE | Shawn King | DNP-SUSPENDED |
| LB | Mike Peterson | 158 tackles, 2 INTs |
| LB | Rob Morris | 11 tackles, 0 INTs |
| LB | Marcus Washington | 11 tackles, 2 sacks |
| CB | Jeff Burris | 76 tackles, 4 INTs |
| CB | Mustafah Muhammad | 12 tackles, 1 INT |
| SS | Chad Cota | 87 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Derek Fox | 0 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Mike Vanderjagt | 46-46 XPs, 25-27 FGs |
| P | Hunter Smith | 65 punts, 44.7 avg |
| KR | Jerome Pathon | 26 KR, 22.4 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Terrence Wilkins | 29 PR, 8.3 avg, 0 TDs |

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

George Caravolos, DBs; Vic Fangio, defensive coordinator; Todd Grantham, DL; Richard Howell, strength and conditioning; Gene Huey, RBs; John Hufnagel, QBs; Tony Marciano, TEs; Tom Moore, offensive coordinator; Howard Mudd, OL; Mike Murphy, LBs; Jay Norvell, WRs; John Pagano, def. asst.; Kevin Spencer, special teams

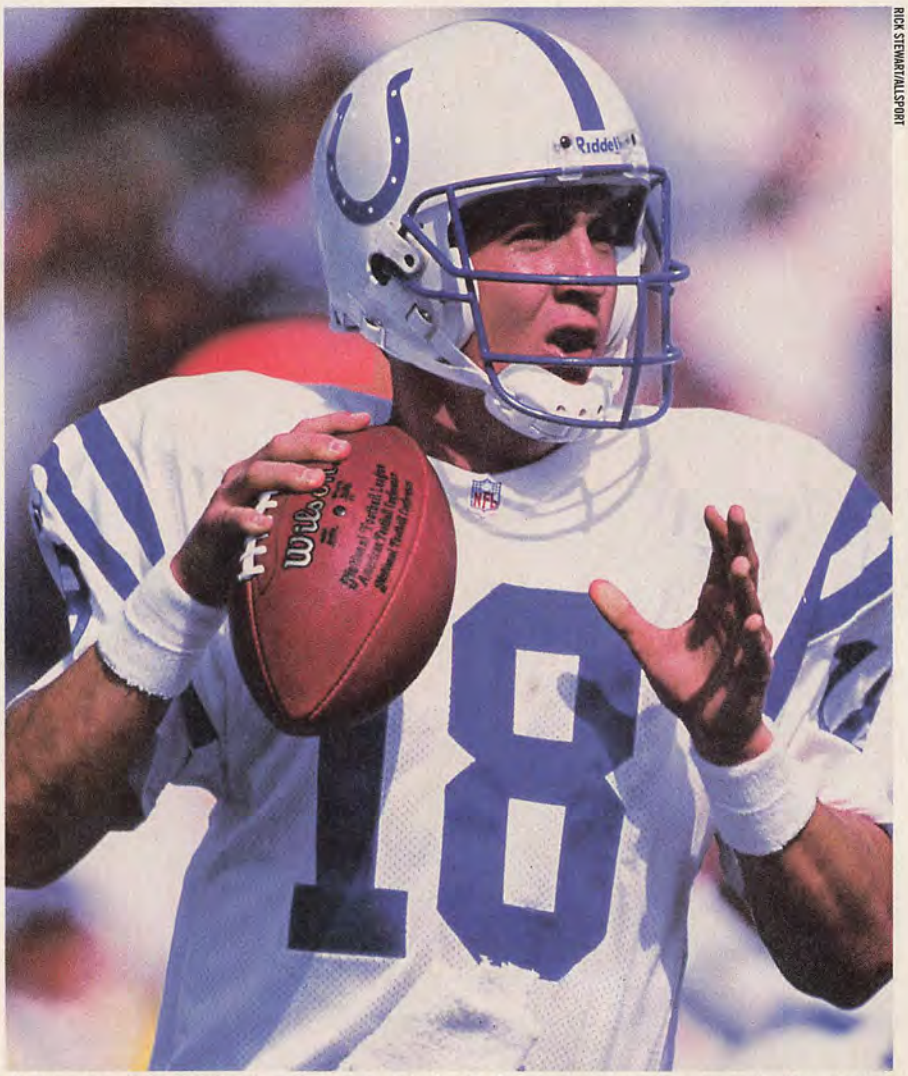
# Defense needs to show signs of improvement

By Michael Bradley

Maybe Colts fans can start showing up at the RCA Dome with those silly cheering devices that Ravens, Titans and Dolphins fans flaunt. You know the ones—a giant, cardboard D next to a picket fence. D-FENCE. When a team finishes 21st in the NFL in total yards allowed and 25th against the run, you look for help any way you can get it.

The Colts made some off-season moves to help their defense, releasing four starters, stocking up in the draft and signing some reinforcements for the front four. At least it's a start.

The Colts need some young playmakers who can take the pressure off the offense. Indy's O is by no means declining—in Peyton Manning and Edgerrin James, the Colts last year were the first team to have the NFL leaders in both passing and rushing yardage since the 1937 Redskins—but it can't win alone. GM Bill Polian and coach Jim Mora know the Colts must get better defensively or fall behind in the tough AFC.




RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT

*If the ultra-dependable Manning ever gets hurt, the Colts would be crippled offensively.*

# "Buy My Sensational September. If I Don't Hit 80%-*That's Right, 80%* You'll Get the Rest of the Season FREE!"

*"And you get my Pre-Season FREE!" Jim Hurley*

Every year, my players make a fistful of dollars on Opening Day. A satchel full in Week Two. A bushel basket in Week Three and a cartload in Week Four. ***Check my September record for the last six seasons... see for yourself:***

| 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22-8 | 20-9 | 22-5 | 32-8 | 36-8 | 31-8 | 165-46 |
| 73% | 69% | 81% | 80% | 82% | 79% | 78.2% |

There is nothing like it anywhere in football. Sure we win the rest of the year, but seldom as big as September. Here's a piece of last year's September record so you'll know I'm not blowing smoke:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** | | |
| West Va (-2) Boston Col | 34-14 | W |
| So Miss (+10) Tennessee | 16-19 | W |
| N. Dame (-2½) Tex A&M | 24-10 | W |
| Alabama (-6) UCLA | 24-25 | L |
| SMU (+4½) over Kansas | 31-17 | W |
| Oklahoma (-26) UTEP | 55-14 | W |
| **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3** | | |
| Ravens (-2½) Steelers | 16-0 | W |
| Saints (-1) Lions | 10-14 | L |
| Chargers (+6½) Raiders | 6-9 | W |
| Panthers(+10½) Redskins | 17-20 | W |

***How do you explain this kind of success?*** **Simple.** While the Vegas linesmakers sit on their duff guessing where the line OUGHT to be, we're out getting the information that tells us where the line MUST be. It's their guesswork versus our homework. ***No contest!***

## Interested? Then let's make a deal:

❖ **All I want for my record-busting month is just $100.** (Last year even my least ambitious players made TWENTY times that.)

❖ For your $100, you get my **September Hotline plays**–figure 2 to 3 college and 2 to 3 NFL games every weekend plus Key Mondays.

❖ **I'm saying that if *(for example)* I give you 25 games, you must win at least 20 of them or I have to give you October, November and December absolutely FREE!**

**So it's all UPSIDE for you and a lot of DOWNSIDE for me if I fail.** I could give you **29-6 for 76%** and STILL fall short. What a deal. I must be awfully confident. ***And I am!***

## WHAT IF I COME THOUGH AND WE HIT 80%?

Then you agree to come in for the rest of the season for **just $150**. With all those **EARLY PROFITS** in your pocket I know you'll be tickled pink. And you WILL win. Last October we topped 70%. Most years, November is our HOTTEST month.

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**BONUS 2: YOU GET MY NETWORK BULLETIN NEWSLETTER** with trends, power ratings, winning systems and angles plus analysis and 64%-accurate picks on all board games.

So get aboard my **August/September Win Machine**. Remember, early bucks are the best. By the time the Vegas man starts to catch up, you already have more of his money than he can ever win back from you. ***What a great spot to be in!***

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**Quarterbacks** This section should simply read "Quarterback," because if Manning goes down, even for a game, the Colts are in trouble. Manning attempted every one of the team's 571 passes last season and had another solid year. He's an expert at reading defenses and calling audibles, is very accurate and throws a great deep ball.

If there's a negative side to Manning, it's his mobility. He's not going to break a big one, but his quick release and ability to find receivers quickly makes him tough to wrap up. He was sacked only 20 times last season.

The backup role falls to Billy Joe Hobert, now that Kelly Holcomb has left for Cleveland.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at New York Jets | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | DENVER | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at New England | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 14 | OAKLAND | 8:30 |
| Oct. 21 | NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | at Kansas City | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | at Buffalo | 4:15 |
| Nov. 11 | MIAMI | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at New Orleans | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | at Baltimore | 1:00 |
| Dec. 10 | at Miami | 9:00 |
| Dec. 16 | ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | NEW YORK JETS | 8:30 |
| Dec. 30 | at St. Louis | 1:00 |

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## 2000 RESULTS

10-6, 2nd in AFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Kansas City | W, 27-14 |
| Sept. 10 | OAKLAND | L, 31-38 |
| Sept. 25 | JACKSONVILLE | W, 43-14 |
| Oct. 1 | at Buffalo | W, 18-16 |
| Oct. 8 | at New England | L, 16-24 |
| Oct. 15 | at Seattle | W, 37-24 |
| Oct. 22 | NEW ENGLAND | W, 30-23 |
| Oct. 29 | DETROIT | W, 30-18 |
| Nov. 5 | at Chicago | L, 24-27 |
| Nov. 12 | NEW YORK JETS | W, 23-15 |
| Nov. 19 | at Green Bay | L, 24-26 |
| Nov. 26 | MIAMI | L, 14-17 |
| Dec. 3 | at New York Jets | L, 17-27 |
| Dec. 11 | BUFFALO | W, 44-20 |
| Dec. 17 | at Miami | W, 20-13 |
| Dec. 24 | MINNESOTA | W, 31-10 |
| Dec. 30 | at Miami* | L, 17-23 |

* AFC Wild Card

**Running Backs** The Colts don't have much room for injury here, either. James ran the ball 387 times last year. The other Indy backs combined for seven carries. A glaring disparity? Perhaps, but James is a great weapon who should be used to the max. He gained an NFL-best 1,709 yards and also caught 63 balls for 594 yards and five TDs. The load will eventually wear James down, but not for several years.

The rest of the backs are role players. FB Jim Finn is a willing blocker and serviceable receiver, but his and reserve Lennox Gordon's touches will be limited.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Although Marvin Harrison is clearly one of the league's best, he has never had a reliable second option next to him. The Colts hope they found that missing weapon in top draft pick Reggie Wayne, a burner who runs tight routes and is Miami's all-time receptions leader. Wayne, along with Jerome Pathon and Terrence Wilkins, should create more room for Harrison to operate.

If Wayne doesn't start, it's because the Colts still have faith in Pathon, on whom they slapped a franchise tag this offseason. He showed signs of emerging last year, though he hasn't become the field-stretcher needed to effectively complement Harrison.

Wilkins is a jitterbug. He's creative with the ball, but his best work may come returning punts. Possession man E.G. Green is also vying for time.

Indy re-signed tight end Marcus Pollard and will continue to team him with sure-handed Ken Dilger in several two-tight-end sets.

**Offensive Line** This unit is set, although the Colts don't have a lot of proven depth. The tackles are Tarik Glenn and Adam Meadows, each of whom should be around for a long while. This could be the year Glenn, who has been particularly stout the last two seasons, earns a Pro Bowl berth. He deserved one in 2000.

## 2000 COLTS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 383.8 (3) | 116.2 (16) | 267.6 (2) | 26.8 (4) | 14 (12t) | 33 (2t) | 4.3 (7t) | 12.4 (7) | 20 (1t) | 357 (3) | 46.8 (2) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 334.8 (21) | 120.9 (25) | 213.9 (18) | 20.4 (15t) | 13 (16t) | 22 (16) | 4.3 (21t) | 11.6 (18t) | 41 (14) | 14 (23) | -7 (22) |

## 2001 COLTS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | Hobert, Billy Joe | 6'3" | 230 | 30 | 9 | Washington |
| 18 | Manning, Peyton | 6'5" | 230 | 25 | 4 | Tennessee |
| 15 | Meyer, Dave | 6'3" | 200 | 23 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 8 | Robinson, Roderick | 6'2" | 190 | 25 | R | Ark.-Pine Bluff |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 45 | Brown, Kevin | 6'1" | 230 | 23 | R | UNLV |
| 36 | Finn, Jim (FB) | 6'0" | 235 | 24 | 2 | Pennsylvania |
| 30 | Gordon, Lennox | 5'11" | 201 | 23 | 3 | New Mexico |
| 32 | James, Edgerrin | 6'0" | 216 | 23 | 3 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 43 | McDougal, Kevin | 5'11" | 204 | 24 | 2 | Colorado State |
| 39 | Millican, Brett | 5'10" | 202 | 23 | R | Georgia |
| 40 | Rhodes, Dominic | 5'9" | 209 | 22 | R | Midwestern St. |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 85 | Dilger, Ken (TE) | 6'5" | 255 | 30 | 7 | Illinois |
| 84 | Green, E.G. | 5'11" | 190 | 26 | 4 | Florida State |
| 10 | Haddad, Drew | 5'10" | 186 | 23 | 1 | Buffalo |
| 88 | Harrison, Marvin | 6'0" | 181 | 29 | 6 | Syracuse |
| 1 | Insley, Trevor | 6'0" | 183 | 23 | 1 | Nevada-Reno |
| 6 | Jones, Aaron | 5'11" | 185 | 24 | R | Utah State |
| 83 | Keur, Joshua (TE) | 6'4" | 283 | 24 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 86 | Pathon, Jerome | 6'0" | 187 | 25 | 4 | Washington |
| 81 | Pollard, Marcus (TE) | 6'4" | 252 | 29 | 7 | Bradley |
| 48 | Snow, Justin (TE) | 6'3" | 232 | 24 | 2 | Baylor |
| 87 | Wayne, Reggie | 6'3" | 197 | 22 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 80 | Wilkins, Terrence | 5'8" | 179 | 26 | 3 | Virginia |
| 3 | Wilmot, Dwayne | 5'10" | 204 | 22 | R | Maine |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 66 | DeMulling, Rick (G) | 6'3" | 306 | 22 | R | Idaho State |
| 71 | Diem, Ryan (G) | 6'7" | 338 | 22 | R | Northern Illinois |
| 69 | Gilbert, Ben (G) | 6'4" | 316 | 23 | 2 | Ohio State |
| 78 | Glenn, Tarik (T) | 6'5" | 335 | 25 | 5 | California |
| 74 | Jackson, Waverly (T) | 6'2" | 315 | 28 | 4 | Virginia Tech |
| 76 | McKinney, Steve (G) | 6'4" | 302 | 25 | 4 | Texas A&M |
| 73 | Meadows, Adam (T) | 6'5" | 295 | 27 | 5 | Georgia |
| 57 | Merandi, John (C) | 6'2" | 293 | 23 | R | Notre Dame |
| 50 | Moore, Larry (G) | 6'2" | 312 | 26 | 4 | BYU |
| 61 | Murphy, Rob (G) | 6'5" | 305 | 24 | 1 | Ohio State |
| 68 | Redding, Josh (G) | 6'3" | 306 | 23 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 72 | Ridder, Tim (G) | 6'7" | 301 | 24 | 1 | Notre Dame |
| 63 | Saturday, Jeff (C) | 6'2" | 295 | 26 | 3 | North Carolina |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 93 | Barnes, Lionel (E) | 6'4" | 264 | 25 | 3 | La.-Monroe |
| 92 | Bratzke, Chad (E) | 6'5" | 275 | 29 | 8 | Eastern Kentucky |
| 79 | Holsey, Bernard (T) | 6'2" | 285 | 27 | 6 | Duke |
| 62 | Johnson, Ellis (E) | 6'2" | 288 | 27 | 7 | Florida |
| 95 | King, Shawn (E) | 6'3" | 290 | 29 | 6 | La.-Monroe |
| 65 | Miller, Brandon (T) | 6'1" | 299 | 25 | 2 | Georgia |
| 91 | Nwokorie, Chukie (T) | 6'2" | 286 | 26 | 3 | Purdue |
| 97 | Peter, Christian (T) | 6'3" | 300 | 28 | 5 | Nebraska |
| 60 | Pinkney, Cleveland (T) | 6'0" | 292 | 23 | R | South Carolina |
| 68 | Reid, Ike (E) | 6'4" | 250 | 26 | 1 | Ohio Wesleyan |
| 61 | Renes, Rob (E) | 6'1" | 308 | 24 | 1 | Michigan |
| 99 | Scioli, Brad (E) | 6'3" | 277 | 24 | 3 | Penn State |
| 96 | Williams, Josh (E) | 6'3" | 284 | 25 | 2 | Michigan |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 54 | Colbert, Nick | 6'2" | 235 | 23 | R | Troy State |
| 59 | Gentry, Josh | 6'1" | 240 | 23 | 1 | Indianapolis |
| 94 | Morris, Rob | 6'2" | 250 | 26 | 2 | BYU |
| 52 | Peterson, Mike | 6'2" | 235 | 25 | 3 | Florida |
| 57 | Sims, Teddy | 6'0" | 234 | 23 | R | Southern Illinois |
| 55 | Smith, Matt | 6'3" | 251 | 25 | R | Oregon |
| 58 | Stockbauer, Marc | 6'3" | 235 | 23 | 1 | Stanford |
| 98 | Sword, Sam | 6'1" | 245 | 26 | 3 | Michigan |
| 53 | Washington, Marcus | 6'3" | 247 | 23 | 2 | Auburn |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28 | Bashir, Idrees | 6'2" | 206 | 22 | R | Memphis |
| 41 | Bird, Cory | 5'10" | 218 | 22 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 26 | Brooks, Rodregis | 5'10" | 181 | 23 | 1 | UAB |
| 20 | Burris, Jeff | 6'0" | 190 | 29 | 8 | Notre Dame |
| 37 | Cota, Chad | 6'1" | 195 | 30 | 7 | Oregon |
| 31 | Crosby, Clifton | 5'9" | 172 | 26 | 2 | Maryland |
| 34 | Doering, Jason | 5'11" | 200 | 22 | R | Wisconsin |
| 23 | Fox, Derek | 5'10" | 193 | 23 | 1 | Penn State |
| 47 | Hampton, Jermaine | 6'0" | 205 | 22 | R | Northern Illinois |
| 35 | Jones, Ontei | 5'9" | 190 | 22 | R | Oklahoma |
| 27 | Macklin, David | 5'9" | 195 | 23 | 2 | Penn State |
| 21 | Muhammad, Mustafah | 5'10" | 180 | 27 | 3 | Fresno State |
| 42 | Walls, Raymond | 5'10" | 176 | 22 | R | Southern Miss |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | Kight, Danny (K) | 6'0" | 214 | 30 | 3 | Augusta State |
| 14 | Rhine, Alan (P) | 5'11" | 187 | 23 | R | Florida |
| 17 | Smith, Hunter (P) | 6'2" | 212 | 24 | 3 | Notre Dame |
| 12 | Vanderjagt, Mike (K) | 6'5" | 210 | 31 | 4 | West Virginia |

At guard, Steve McKinney is a fine technician, and though Larry Moore is stronger, he's green. The two need to get better at opening holes in the middle for James. Eventually, 6'6", 338-pound draft pick Ryan Diem could break into the mix at guard.

Center Jeff Saturday is no hulk, but he's excellent in pass protection.

**Defensive Line** The Colts were often dominated at the line in 2000; opponents used the surge to run for nearly 121 yards per game. Any improvement will need to come from in-house talent.

Josh Williams started seven games at tackle last year and showed an ability to stop the run, but he isn't a classic drain plug. As he develops, he could become a nice complement to Ellis Johnson, a first-rate middle man. The Colts also signed undersized yet determined ex-Giant Christian Peter to fortify their run defense.

Indy has one strong end in Chad Bratzke, but they need Shawn King to return from last year's suspension for violating the Colts' substance abuse policy. King has talent and potential but must become more reliable, because backups Brad Scioli and Bernard Holsey aren't every-down guys.

*Ken Dilger*

**Linebackers** The healthy return of Rob Morris from a season-ending rupture of his quadriceps tendon would be a big plus in stopping the run. The Colts feel Morris, a first-round draft pick in 2000, will be strong enough to man the middle, so they released Dwight Hollier, who had 95 tackles. Indy also waived Cornelius Bennett in favor of second-year man Marcus Washington, who played well on special teams last year.

The lone holdover is Mike Peterson, who led the team with 158 tackles. He's a force, but there's little behind him, so any injury would be disastrous to Indy's shaky run defense.

**Defensive Backs** The Colts have made some changes here, too, releasing free safety Jason Belser and cornerback Tyrone Poole and adding four draftees. The free safety spot is sticky, since only Derek Fox, who didn't play last year, is available due to the release of Tony Blevins. That could be trouble unless second-round pick Idrees Bashir steps in immediately. He has the tools to be a good one in a hurry.

The Colts will most likely go with Mustafah Muhammad at one corner and proven Jeff Burris at the other. Second-year man David Macklin and Raymond Walls, a fifth-round draft choice, also will get looks.

Strong safety Chad Cota had 87 stops and picked off two balls. Though not in the upper echelon at his position, he's a valuable player.

**Special Teams** Mike Vanderjagt may have missed a key field goal in the playoff game against Miami, but he made 25 of 27 during the regular season. Punter Hunter Smith had a great average (44.7 yards); he and Vanderjagt give the Colts a strong one-two kick.

The return game wasn't so good. Even though Pathon emerged as a fairly valuable kick returner, neither he nor Wilkins is a gamebreaker. Wilkins averaged a pedestrian 8.3 yards bringing back punts. That has to improve.

**Management** Even though the Colts haven't won a playoff game during the Polian-Mora era, it's tough to find a better combo. Polian kept things under control in the cap department, convincing several players to restructure their contracts, so the team didn't have to make many sacrifices during the offseason. A proven drafter, Polian's challenge now is to upgrade the defense.

Mora has done a fine job of crafting a wide-open offense. Now he must get the Colts to think D. That could come with personnel changes, but in the meantime, he and his staff must turn young players into contributors. That's the key to Indy winning this postseason.

*Michael Bradley is a free-lance writer based in Broomall, Pa.*

NFL (MORRIS); RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Rob Morris was drafted to take over the middle linebacker spot, but a slow start and season-ending injury ruined that plan. Morris, 27 after this season, must become an anchor now.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

It's always a great thing when the Horseshoes play in Baltimore, and Indy visits the Ravens Dec. 2. Wonder if any Irsays will be on hand?

### KEY STAT

Only 11 of the Colts' offensive plays last year didn't involve either Manning or James. Holy small margins for error!

### GLUE GUY

Jeff Saturday doesn't overwhelm rival tackles, but he rarely makes a bad call and is a good pass protector.

*Rob Morris*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Reggie Wayne | WR, Miami<br>Speed and more speed; he has great hands, too. |
| 2 | Idrees Bashir | S, Memphis<br>Rangy cover man with good speed and size. |
| 3 | Cory Bird | S, Virginia Tech<br>Hitter will play the strong spot; excellent special-teamer. |
| 4 | Ryan Diem | G, Northern Illinois<br>Huge road grader who specializes in run blocking. |
| 5 | Raymond Walls | CB, Southern Miss<br>Lacks size but has blazing speed in coverage. |
| 6 | Jason Doering | S, Wisconsin<br>Heady playmaker who lacks speed. |
| 7 | Rick DeMulling | G, Idaho<br>A likely practice squad player in 2001. |

Reggie Wayne didn't generate the kind of hype former Hurricane teammate Santana Moss did before the draft, but he's equally talented. Wayne can flat out fly, but he's not just a North-South runner. He's tricky to stay with in routes and fearless across the middle. Peyton Manning will like this kid in no time. Indy could have used some more help on the D-line, but it really needed a secondary overhaul. Wayne was tabbed first because Arizona State's Adam Archuleta was already off the board. Bashir and Bird will each get plenty of chances to show their skills, though likely more on special teams at first. Same goes for underrated Walls and Doering.

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# Miami DOLPHINS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **4** |
| Lucas will push Fiedler, but neither is a star. | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **7** |
| Smith was a find; now it's time to discover depth. | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **7** |
| There's solid depth, but no true gamebreaker. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **7** |
| Opens holes and protects passer effectively. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **8** |
| One of the best around, even without Armstrong. | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **8** |
| Already big producers, they're getting better. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **7** |
| Free safety could be a problem position. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **8** |
| Mare is a standout, and the coverage is great. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **7** |
| Wannstedt has proved his doubters wrong. | |
| **OVERALL:** | **7** |
| A reliable QB away from being real contenders. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**2nd in AFC East**

## DOLPHINS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dave Wannstedt (12-6 with Miami)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | **Jay Fiedler** | 204-357, 2,402 yds, 14 TDs |
| RB | **Lamar Smith** | 309 car, 1,139 yds, 14 TDs |
| FB | **Rob Konrad** | 15 car, 39 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | **Hunter Goodwin** | 6 rec, 36 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | **Oronde Gadsden** | 56 rec, 786 yds, 6 TDs |
| WR | **James McKnight** (DAL) | 52 rec, 926 yds, 2 TDs |
| LT | **Brent Smith** | 16 games, 2 starts |
| LG | **Mark Dixon** | 15 games, 15 starts |
| C | **Tim Ruddy** | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | **Todd Perry** (CHI) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | **Todd Wade** | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | **Kenny Mixon** | 44 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| DT | **Tim Bowens** | 40 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| DT | **Daryl Gardener** | 49 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| DE | **Jason Taylor** | 63 tackles, 14.5 sacks |
| LB | **Derrick Rodgers** | 75 tackles, 0.5 sacks |
| LB | **Zach Thomas** | 99 tackles, 1.5 sacks |
| LB | **Twan Russell** | 3 tackles, 0 sacks |
| CB | **Patrick Surtain** | 53 tackles, 5 INTs |
| CB | **Sam Madison** | 39 tackles, 5 INTs |
| SS | **Brian Walker** | 88 tackles, 7 INTs |
| FS | **Arturo Freeman** | 0 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | **Olindo Mare** | 33-34 XPs, 28-31 FGs |
| P | **Matt Turk** | 92 punts, 42.1 avg |
| KR | **Autry Denson** | 20 KR, 24.8 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | **Jeff Ogden** | 19 PR, 17.0 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in **Blue**

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Keith Armstrong, special teams; Jim Bates, defensive coordinator; Doug Blevins, kickers; Clarence Brooks, DL; Joel Collier, RBs; Robert Ford, WRs; Chan Gailey, offensive coordinator; John Gamble, strength and conditioning; Judd Garrett, off. asst.; Pat Jones, TEs; Bill Lewis, nickel package; Robert Nunn, def. asst.; Mel Phillips, DBs; Bob Sanders, LBs; Mike Shula, QBs; Tony Wise, OL

# Drab offense could use a QB like, say, Marino

Jimmy Johnson spent last year on his boat, loving life and trying to forget his last taste of coaching, a 62-7 debacle to Jacksonville in the second round of the 1999 playoffs.

Meanwhile, left to pick up the pieces of a shellshocked team that also lost legendary quarterback Dan Marino, former Johnson lieutenant Dave Wannstedt won a division title and a first-round playoff game. Not bad for a coach and team expected to struggle.

Now comes the difficult part. The Dolphins have advanced to the division-al round two straight years, but they're still a notch below the AFC elite. The obvious problem is under center, where Jay Fiedler is clearly not in Marino's class. And though the Fish have finally mustered an efficient running attack, the inconsistent air game will hold it in check. If only the Dolphins had figured a way to run the ball with Marino....

With a largely intact defense, one of the AFC's best, Miami should play a lot of low-scoring, ball-control games. The plan worked once, but may not be enough this time.

ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

***Smith turned into a rushing force in Miami, picking up the Dolphins' poor passing game.***

**Quarterbacks** Much of what Fielder lacks in arm strength he makes up for in smarts and scrambling ability. In his first year as a full-time NFL starter, Fiedler rushed for 267 yards, five shy of the season team record for a QB. The former Eagle, Viking and Jaguar is also surprisingly tough, which has earned him his teammates' respect.

Still, Fiedler threw the same number of TD passes (14) as interceptions. That's why the Dolphins signed former Jet Ray Lucas, who was told he'd have a chance to compete for the starting job. Fiedler is no sure thing, and no other threats were expected in camp. Damon Huard signed with New England, leaving Mike Quinn and draftee Josh Heupel to battle for the third spot.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Tennessee | 8:30 |
| Sept. 16 | BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | OAKLAND | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at St. Louis | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at New York Jets | 4:15 |
| Oct. 21 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 28 | at Seattle | 4:15 |
| Nov. 4 | CAROLINA | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at Indianapolis | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | at Buffalo | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | DENVER | 1:00 |
| Dec. 10 | INDIANAPOLIS | 9:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at San Francisco | 4:05 |
| Dec. 22 | at New England | 12:30 |
| Dec. 30 | ATLANTA | 1:00 |

PRO PLAYER STADIUM (75,192)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

11-5, 1st in AFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | SEATTLE | W, 23-0 |
| Sept. 10 | at Minnesota | L, 7-13 |
| Sept. 17 | BALTIMORE | W, 19-6 |
| Sept. 24 | NEW ENGLAND | W, 10-3 |
| Oct. 1 | at Cincinnati | W, 31-16 |
| Oct. 8 | BUFFALO | W, 22-13 |
| Oct. 23 | at New York Jets | L, 37-40 |
| Oct. 29 | GREEN BAY | W, 28-20 |
| Nov. 5 | at Detroit | W, 23-8 |
| Nov. 12 | at San Diego | W, 17-7 |
| Nov. 19 | NEW YORK JETS | L, 3-20 |
| Nov. 26 | at Indianapolis | W, 17-14 |
| Dec. 3 | at Buffalo | W, 33-6 |
| Dec. 10 | TAMPA BAY | L, 13-16 |
| Dec. 17 | INDIANAPOLIS | L, 13-20 |
| Dec. 24 | at New England | W, 27-24 |
| Dec. 30 | INDIANAPOLIS* | W, 23-17 |
| Jan. 6 | at Oakland# | L, 0-27 |

* AFC Wild Card, # AFC Divisional Playoff

**Running Backs** Even Wannstedt had to be surprised by Lamar Smith's emergence. Smith carried the ball 309 times and scored 14 touchdowns. And though his 3.7 yard-per-carry average didn't glitter, he was a classic workhorse—exactly what Johnson craved all those years. Smith's 209-yard performance against the Colts in the playoffs showed he can carry this team when the passing attack sputters.

J.J. Johnson has potential, but he didn't show much of it last year. Big, strong and fast, he needs to be more productive. Autry Denson will try to handle Thurman Thomas' third-down role. Denson has good hands and the ability to make tacklers miss, a trait shared by draftee Travis Minor, who might be quicker than Denson in the flat.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** If Fiedler isn't Marino, Oronde Gadsden and Leslie Shepherd certainly aren't Mark Duper and Mark Clayton. That's why Miami signed James McKnight from Dallas and Dedric Ward from the Jets. The Dolphins also re-signed Jeff Ogden, drafted Wisconsin's Chris Chambers and dumped Tony Martin.

The result is a deep corps of sure-handed athletes short on breakaway speed. If anyone's going to become a home run threat, it's Chambers, who runs a 4.3 40 and can outmuscle lightweight corners.

McKnight was the Cowboys' best receiver last year after Joey Galloway went down, but he has more to prove. Ward never became the dependable second option to Wayne Chrebet he was expected to be. And Gadsden will catch

## 2000 DOLPHINS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 278.8 (26) | 118.4 (14) | 160.4 (27) | 20.2 (16) | 16 (7t) | 15 (24) | 3.8 (22t) | 11.2 (20) | 28 (4t) | 251 (28t) | 35.0 (23t) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 289.8 (6) | 108.5 (14) | 181.3 (5) | 14.1 (3) | 9 (6t) | 13 (5t) | 4.2 (18t) | 11.2 (10t) | 48 (7) | 28 (1) | 15 (5) |

## 2001 DOLPHINS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Fiedler, Jay | 6'2" | 225 | 29 | 6 | Dartmouth |
| 14 | Heupel, Josh | 6'1" | 216 | 23 | R | Oklahoma |
| 6 | Lucas, Ray | 6'3" | 214 | 29 | 5 | Rutgers |
| 4 | Quinn, Mike | 6'4" | 215 | 27 | 5 | S.F. Austin |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28 | Denson, Autry | 5'10" | 195 | 24 | 3 | Notre Dame |
| 33 | Dyer, Deon (FB) | 5'11" | 255 | 23 | 2 | North Carolina |
| 32 | Johnson, J.J. | 6'1" | 232 | 26 | 3 | Mississippi St. |
| 43 | Jonnson, Eric (FB) | 6'1" | 240 | 22 | R | Florida |
| 44 | Konrad, Rob (FB) | 6'3" | 255 | 24 | 3 | Syracuse |
| 34 | Minor, Travis | 5'10" | 194 | 21 | R | Florida State |
| 25 | Sanders, Vaughn | 5'10" | 210 | 24 | 1 | Hofstra |
| 26 | Smith, Lamar | 5'11" | 229 | 30 | 8 | Houston |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18 | Alford, Brian | 6'1" | 190 | 26 | 2 | Purdue |
| 19 | Anderson, Ronnie | 6'0" | 198 | 27 | 3 | Allegheny |
| 17 | Baker, Robert | 5'11" | 200 | 25 | 2 | Auburn |
| 84 | Chambers, Chris | 5'11" | 212 | 22 | R | Wisconsin |
| 2 | Faye, David | 6'1" | 202 | 23 | R | Marshall |
| 86 | Gadsden, Oronde | 6'2" | 215 | 30 | 4 | Winston-Salem St. |
| 83 | Goodwin, Hunter (TE) | 6'5" | 270 | 28 | 6 | Texas A&M |
| 48 | Heffner-Liddiard, Brody (TE) | 6'4" | 235 | 24 | 2 | Colorado |
| 16 | Johnson, Albert | 5'9" | 184 | 23 | 1 | SMU |
| 85 | Mayes, Alonzo (TE) | 6'4" | 265 | 26 | 4 | Oklahoma St. |
| 81 | McDuffie, O.J. | 5'10" | 195 | 31 | 9 | Penn State |
| 80 | McKnight, James | 6'1" | 198 | 29 | 8 | Liberty |
| 88 | Ogden, Jeff | 6'0" | 190 | 26 | 4 | Eastern Wash. |
| 89 | Perry, Ed (TE) | 6'4" | 270 | 27 | 5 | James Madison |
| 15 | Savage, Damon | 5'10" | 185 | 25 | 2 | Tulsa |
| 87 | Ward, Dedric | 5'9" | 184 | 26 | 5 | Northern Iowa |
| 82 | Weaver, Jed (TE) | 6'4" | 246 | 25 | 3 | Oregon |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 67 | Adams, Ben (G) | 6'5" | 310 | 25 | 1 | Texas |
| 62 | Andersen, Jason (G) | 6'6" | 315 | 25 | 4 | BYU |
| 65 | Andrew, Troy (C) | 6'4" | 297 | 23 | R | Duke |
| 60 | Bock, John (C) | 6'3" | 295 | 30 | 7 | Indiana State |
| 64 | Cesario, Anthony (G) | 6'5" | 310 | 25 | 3 | Colorado State |
| 63 | Dixon, Mark (G) | 6'4" | 300 | 30 | 4 | Virginia |
| 68 | Draper, Shawn (T) | 6'3" | 294 | 21 | R | Alabama |
| 69 | Harding, Jim (T) | 6'5" | 305 | 23 | R | Toledo |
| 66 | Irwin, Heath (G) | 6'4" | 300 | 28 | 6 | Colorado |
| 73 | Palmer, Dan (T) | 6'4" | 290 | 28 | 2 | Air Force |
| 75 | Perry, Todd (G) | 6'5" | 308 | 30 | 9 | Kentucky |
| 61 | Ruddy, Tim (C) | 6'3" | 305 | 29 | 8 | Notre Dame |
| 74 | Smith, Brent (T) | 6'5" | 315 | 27 | 5 | Mississippi St. |
| 76 | Spriggs, Marcus (T) | 6'3" | 315 | 27 | 5 | Houston |
| 71 | Wade, Todd (T) | 6'8" | 325 | 24 | 2 | Mississippi |
| 72 | Winey, Brandon (T) | 6'7" | 294 | 23 | R | LSU |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 95 | Bowens, Tim (T) | 6'4" | 320 | 28 | 8 | Mississippi |
| 91 | Bromell, Lorenzo (E) | 6'6" | 275 | 25 | 4 | Clemson |
| 77 | Connor, Rameel (E) | 6'3" | 280 | 24 | 1 | Illinois |
| 93 | Finn, Devon (E) | 6'5" | 265 | 23 | R | Illinois State |
| 92 | Gardener, Daryl (T) | 6'6" | 317 | 28 | 6 | Baylor |
| 97 | Grant, Ernest (T) | 6'5" | 310 | 25 | 2 | Ark.-Pine Bluff |
| 98 | Gregory, Damian (T) | 6'2" | 315 | 24 | 2 | Illinois State |
| 70 | Gurley, Buck (T) | 6'2" | 288 | 23 | R | Florida |
| 94 | Haley, Jermaine (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 28 | 2 | Butte College |
| 96 | Leverette, Otis (E) | 6'6" | 285 | 22 | R | UAB |
| 79 | Mixon, Kenny (E) | 6'4" | 285 | 26 | 4 | LSU |
| 90 | Ogunleye, Adewale (E) | 6'4" | 278 | 24 | 2 | Indiana |
| 99 | Taylor, Jason (E) | 6'6" | 260 | 27 | 5 | Akron |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | Crowell, Rick | 6'2" | 238 | 23 | R | Colorado St. |
| 58 | Galyon, Scott | 6'2" | 242 | 27 | 6 | Tennessee |
| 57 | Gatten, Aaron | 6'1" | 222 | 23 | R | Penn State |
| 52 | Greenwood, Morlon | 6'0" | 239 | 22 | R | Syracuse |
| 50 | Hemsley, Nate | 6'0" | 228 | 27 | 3 | Syracuse |
| 51 | Hendricks, Tommy | 6'2" | 231 | 22 | 2 | Michigan |
| 53 | Johnson, Paris | 6'3" | 220 | 25 | 2 | Miami (Ohio) |
| 49 | McCloud, Tyrus | 6'2" | 250 | 26 | 4 | Louisville |
| 59 | Rodgers, Derrick | 6'1" | 230 | 29 | 5 | Arizona State |
| 56 | Russell, Twan | 6'1" | 228 | 27 | 5 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 54 | Thomas, Zach | 5'11" | 235 | 28 | 6 | Texas Tech |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | Cousin, Terry | 5'9" | 187 | 26 | 5 | South Carolina |
| 40 | Forte, Shawn | 6'1" | 204 | 24 | R | Maryland |
| 24 | Fletcher, Jamar | 5'8" | 177 | 21 | R | Wisconsin |
| 27 | Freeman, Arturo | 6'0" | 195 | 24 | 2 | South Carolina |
| 42 | Gamble, Trent | 5'9" | 195 | 24 | 2 | Wyoming |
| 30 | Harris, Jeff | 6'0" | 189 | 24 | 1 | Georgia |
| 20 | Kelly, Ben | 5'9" | 185 | 22 | 2 | Colorado |
| 31 | Lethridge, Zebbie | 6'0" | 201 | 26 | 1 | Texas Tech |
| 29 | Madison, Sam | 5'11" | 185 | 27 | 5 | Louisville |
| 22 | Porter, Daryl | 5'9" | 187 | 27 | 4 | Boston College |
| 41 | Sorensen, Nick | 6'2" | 207 | 23 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 23 | Surtain, Patrick | 5'11" | 192 | 24 | 4 | Southern Miss |
| 45 | Walker, Brian | 6'1" | 205 | 29 | 6 | Washington St. |
| 38 | Williams, Kevin | 6'0" | 190 | 26 | 4 | Oklahoma St. |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Hanson, Chris (P) | 6'1" | 210 | 24 | 1 | Marshall |
| 10 | Mare, Olindo (K) | 5'10" | 195 | 28 | 5 | Syracuse |
| 1 | Turk, Matt (P) | 6'5" | 250 | 33 | 7 | Wis.-Whitewater |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Cornerback Patrick Surtain impressed the Fish enough last year that they gave him a four-year extension. He has great range and instincts and could be Pro Bowl-bound this season.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Oakland comes to town Sept. 23 in a rematch of last year's playoff game. It will be interesting to see if the Dolphins offense shows up this time.

### KEY STAT

Miami had two more INTs (17) than TD passes last year, evidence of a struggling air attack.

### GLUE GUY

Few are more inspirational and hard-nosed than Zach Thomas, who continues to defy those who say he's too small to play middle linebacker.

**Patrick Surtain**

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 Jamar Fletcher CB, Wisconsin
First-rate pass thief with fine coverage ability.

2 Chris Chambers WR, Wisconsin
Tremendous athletic ability and speed, but needs polish.

3 Travis Minor RB, Florida State
A fine third-down back with speed and good hands.

3 Morlon Greenwood LB, Syracuse
He covers well and can run, but isn't a big hitter.

5 Shawn Draper OT, Alabama
Not very big but strong against the run; could move inside.

6 Brandon Winey OT, LSU
Raw but filled with potential.

6 Josh Heupel QB, Oklahoma
Doesn't have a big arm, but does everything else well.

6 Otis Leverette DE, UAB
The 6'6" end is solid against the run.

6 Rick Crowell LB, Colorado State
Tough and energetic, but must get stronger.

**B+** Miami went Cheesehead with its first two picks, adding depth to two of its already-strong positions. Fletcher's an NFL-ready cover man, and Chambers also looks like he'll carve an NFL niche for himself. Florida State speedster Minor went higher than expected, but he's a sound pass catcher who will show up on third downs and long passing plays. Heupel's a fair prospect but a sensational leader, a fact that cannot be ignored.

what's thrown to him, but he doesn't pose the scoring threat of a No. 1 receiver.

O.J. McDuffie, 31, has been slowed by a toe injury that has bothered him for two years and had him seriously mulling retirement at press time.

The Dolphins have plenty of tight ends, beginning with starter Hunter Goodwin. He isn't a great receiver, but he blocks well. Jed Weaver and Alonzo Mayes also can make catches in traffic.

**Offensive Line** The Dolphins are in good shape here. They discovered a long-term solution at right tackle in Todd Wade, who impressed as a rookie last year with his quick feet and athletic ability. He, along with right guard Todd Perry, a free-agent addition, now form Miami's strong side.

That's because seven-time Pro Bowl left tackle Richmond Webb signed a three-year deal with Cincinnati. With Webb gone, reserve Brent Smith could play next to left guard Mark Dixon, while draftees Shawn Draper and Brandon Winey will get looks.

Center Tim Ruddy is quick and has worked to improve his strength.

**Defensive Line** Though Trace Armstrong and his team-leading 16.5 sacks left for Oakland via free agency, the Dolphins are still strong up front. Tackles Daryl Gardener and Tim Bowens are large plugs in the middle. Rarely are they blown out of plays.

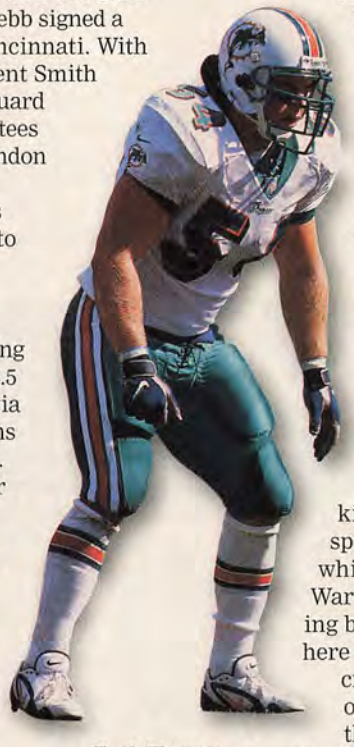
Jason Taylor, who's relentless at getting after the passer, is a major reason Miami had 48 sacks last year. Without Armstrong, Taylor can expect some double-teams, which makes it imperative that left end Kenny Mixon and rush end Lorenzo Bromell, who is taking over Armstrong's role, also get after the quarterback.

**Linebackers** Though slowed by an ankle injury last year, Zach Thomas was still excellent. He goes sideline to sideline in pursuit of rushers as well as any middle linebacker around.

Derrick Rodgers had a fine 2000 season and was given more blitzing and coverage responsibilities as the year went on. He was re-signed, but Robert Jones on the strong side was not. That means Twan Russell has a chance to win a starting job.

**Defensive Backs** Miami gave cornerback Patrick Surtain a four-year contract extension for good reason. He's an air-tight coverage guy capable of handling the opposition's best wideout. Miami expects more consistency from three-year starter Sam Madison. He faces losing playing time to top draft pick Jamar Fletcher, who has outstanding speed and instincts.

The strong safety spot belongs to Brian Walker, who hits hard and had seven picks last year. Free safety isn't as settled. Brock Marion was a free agent, but a lack of attention might bring him back to the Dolphins—at a reduced price. If he doesn't return, look for a battle between second-year man Arturo Freeman, who showed good range, and Trent Gamble, a fine special teams performer.



**Zach Thomas**

**Special Teams** Olindo Mare made 28 of 31 field goals last year, including 12 of 13 from 40-49 yards. He's become more accurate each year since his 1997 rookie season, and his thumping leg can win games. As for punter Matt Turk, he's better than average.

Denson is a strong kick returner with the speed to take it the distance, while Ogden, Shepherd and Ward have experience bringing back punts. The downer here was losing Larry Izzo, a crafty tackler who was often the first man down the field on punt returns, to New England as a free agent.

**Management** Many Dolphins fans were skeptical when Wannstedt replaced Johnson. Out was a two-time Super Bowl-winning coach; in was a guy who was 41-57 with the Bears.

But Wannstedt has proved to be more than just a good friend of JJ's. He put together a strong staff, then made a round of sound personnel decisions. While the first-year grades were encouraging, Wannstedt's challenge now is to improve his offense while keeping a trusty defense together. That's the only way Miami will hang with the Baltimores and Oaklands.

*—Michael Bradley*

NFL (SURTAIN); ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

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| **Grand Prize** | **$10,000** |
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| 5th | $1,000 |
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| 26th-50th | $100 |
| 51st-100th | $50 |
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|---|---|---|---|
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| 3rd | $200 | 6th-15th | $50 |

*For points each month. Monthly prizes paid the next month.*

**Players dropped may be re-acquired. Enter as often as you wish.**

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**PLAYER POINTS:**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yds. Passing | 1 pt. per 25 yds. | TD Pass or Score | 6 pts. | | |
| Yds. Rushing | 1 pt. per 10 yds. | Receptions | 1 pt. | | |
| Yds. Receiving | 1 pt. per 10 yds. | Field Goal | 3 pts. | | |
| *(rounded to nearest 1/10)* | | Extra Point | 1 pt. | | |
| | | Extra Point | 2 pts. | | |

**DEFENSE/SPECIAL TEAM POINTS:**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TD Scored | 6 pts. | Shut out | 15 pts. |
| Safety | 2 pts. | 2 to 13 pts. allowed | 7 pts. |
| Interception | 3 pts. | 14 to 23 pts. allowed | 4 pts. |
| Fumble Recovery | 3 pts. | | |
| Sacks | 3 pts. | 16 FREE TRADES: 6 Trading Periods | |

Reports will include your player points, total team score and ranking, plus a list of all winners. You will receive acknowledgement of entry, your trade forms and rules before September 28. All original player selections are kept active through September 24. Trading begins September 25-29, activating your first trades September 30. 16 FREE trades, no additional trades sold. The September prizes are for games September 9-24. The 4th NFL week, September 30 and October 1 games will be included towards the October monthly points and monthly prizes.
**NEW! There will be one player added to each group. They will be listed on your player list with your September update which will be mailed by September 28. The new player in each group will be eligible to acquire with trades made October 1-12, which are activated on October 14.** Players may not be listed with their current team due to print date of 03/12/01. Players which have been released, retired or injured may be traded.

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**Circle one from each of the 16 groups. Points are figured from 2000 statistics.**

| ID | Group 1 QB | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | D Culpepper | Min | 444.4 |
| 2 | R Gannon | Oak | 384.0 |
| 3 | J Garcia | SF | 422.6 |
| 4 | P Manning | Ind | 394.2 |
| 5 | D McNabb | Phi | 359.5 |
| 6 | K Warner | Stl | 266.7 |

| ID | Group 2 QB | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | D Bledsoe | NE | 261.3 |
| 9 | M Brunell | Jac | 303.1 |
| 10 | K Collins | NYG | 289.4 |
| 11 | B Favre | GB | 287.8 |
| 12 | E Grbac | Bal | 351.6 |
| 13 | B Griese | Den | 239.9 |

| ID | Group 3 QB | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | D Flutie | SD | 138.1 |
| 16 | J George | Was | 99.9 |
| 17 | B Johnson | TB | 178.1 |
| 18 | R Johnson | Buf | 193.6 |
| 19 | S McNair | Ten | 245.0 |
| 20 | V Testaverde | NYG | 278.0 |

| ID | Group 4 RB | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | M Faulk | Stl | 459.9 |
| 23 | C Garner | SF | 306.9 |
| 24 | E George | Ten | 342.0 |
| 25 | E James | Ind | 403.3 |
| 26 | C Martin | NYJ | 312.6 |
| 27 | A Green | GB | 324.4 |

| ID | Group 5 RB | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 29 | J Anderson | Atl | 220.6 |
| 30 | T Barber | NYG | 296.5 |
| 31 | S Davis | Was | 262.1 |
| 32 | F Taylor | Jac | 283.9 |
| 33 | R Watters | Sea | 302.5 |
| 34 | R Williams | NO | 240.3 |

| ID | Group 6 RB | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 36 | M Anderson | Den | 279.9 |
| 37 | C Dillon | Cin | 219.3 |
| 38 | W Dunn | TB | 253.5 |
| 39 | J Lewis | Bal | 229.0 |
| 40 | L Smith | Mia | 261.0 |
| 41 | J Stewart | Det | 251.1 |

| ID | Group 7 RB | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 43 | J Bettis | Pit | 205.8 |
| 44 | T Davis | Den | 42.6 |
| 45 | D Levens | GB | 71.0 |
| 46 | M Pittman | AZ | 238.8 |
| 47 | E Smith | Dal | 193.3 |
| 48 | T Wheatley | Oak | 200.2 |

| ID | Group 8 Rec | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | I Bruce | Stl | 289.2 |
| 51 | M Harrison | Ind | 327.3 |
| 52 | T Holt | Stl | 282.2 |
| 53 | R Moss | Min | 313.2 |
| 54 | T Owens | SF | 321.2 |
| 55 | R Smith | Den | 324.1 |

| ID | Group 9 Rec | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 57 | D Alexander | KC | 281.6 |
| 58 | C Carter | Min | 277.4 |
| 59 | T Gonzalez | KC | 267.3 |
| 60 | J Horn | NO | 277.0 |
| 61 | E McCaffery | Den | 288.7 |
| 62 | J Smith | Jac | 260.3 |

| ID | Group 10 Rec | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 64 | D Boston | AZ | 229.0 |
| 65 | T Brown | Oak | 256.0 |
| 66 | K McCardell | Jac | 244.7 |
| 67 | E Moulds | Buf | 259.0 |
| 68 | M Muhammad | Car | 257.5 |
| 69 | A Toomer | NYG | 244.3 |

| ID | Group 11 Rec | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 71 | W Crebet | NYJ | 208.3 |
| 72 | A Freeman | GB | 207.7 |
| 73 | T Glenn | NE | 212.6 |
| 74 | I Hillard | NYG | 183.6 |
| 75 | K Johnson | TB | 206.9 |
| 76 | J Rice | SF | 197.3 |

| ID | Group 12 Rec | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 78 | D Hayes | Car | 176.6 |
| 79 | O Gadsen | Mia | 170.6 |
| 80 | F Jones | SD | 177.6 |
| 81 | D Mason | Ten | 182.6 |
| 82 | B Schroeder | GB | 190.0 |
| 83 | S Sharpe | Bal | 178.0 |

| ID | Group 13 Rec | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 85 | J Graham | SD | 169.7 |
| 86 | C Lewis | Phi | 160.5 |
| 87 | J Morton | Det | 162.3 |
| 88 | T Mathis | Atl | 154.4 |
| 89 | F Sanders | AZ | 164.9 |
| 90 | F Wychek | Ten | 160.4 |

| ID | Group 14 K | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 92 | D Akers | Phi | 121 |
| 93 | M Gramatica | TB | 126 |
| 94 | R Longwell | GB | 131 |
| 95 | J Nedney | Ten | 126 |
| 96 | M Stover | Bal | 135 |
| 97 | M Vanderjagt | Ind | 121 |

| ID | Group 15 Def & Spc | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 99 | Baltimore | Bal | 361 |
| 100 | Miami | Mia | 375 |
| 101 | New Orleans | NO | 358 |
| 102 | Philadelphia | Phi | 328 |
| 103 | Tampa Bay | TB | 413 |
| 104 | Tennessee | Ten | 391 |

| ID | Group 16 Def & Spc | Tm | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 106 | Denver | Den | 328 |
| 107 | Kansas City | KC | 302 |
| 108 | NYJ | NYJ | 288 |
| 109 | Oakland | Oak | 322 |
| 110 | Pittsburgh | Pit | 306 |
| 111 | Washington | Was | 296 |

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PPF

# Buffalo BILLS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

**QUARTERBACKS: 6**
Johnson has potential–if he can stay healthy.

**RUNNING BACKS: 5**
Would a real ground gainer please stand up?

**RECEIVERS: 8**
Moulds is a star; the supporting cast is strong.

**OFFENSIVE LINE: 5**
Can the Bills play with six people up here?

**DEFENSIVE LINE: 6**
Good thing Williams only uses three of them.

**LINEBACKERS: 7**
These guys are tough, quick and ready for action.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS: 6**
Need to be more aggressive pursuing the ball.

**SPECIAL TEAMS: 5**
Christie's Bills memories better than Norwood's.

**MANAGEMENT: 7**
Williams and Donahoe are perfect together.

**OVERALL: 6**
The ship is righted, but there is still work to do.

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**3rd in AFC East**

## BILLS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Gregg Williams (1st year with Buffalo)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Rob Johnson | 175-306, 2,125 yds, 12 TDs |
| RB | Shawn Bryson | 161 car, 591 yds, 0 TDs |
| FB | Larry Centers (WAS) | 20 car, 103 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Jay Riemersma | 31 rec, 372 yds, 5 TDs |
| WR | Eric Moulds | 94 rec, 1,326 yds, 5 TDs |
| WR | Peerless Price | 52 rec, 762 yds, 3 TDs |
| LT | John Fina | 14 games, 14 starts |
| LG | Ruben Brown | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Billy Conaty | 16 games, 0 starts |
| RG | Jerry Ostroski | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Robert Hicks | 14 games, 7 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Phil Hansen | 27 tackles, 2 sacks |
| NG | Pat Williams | 55 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| DE | Erik Flowers | 20 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Sam Cowart | 129 tackles, 5.5 sacks |
| LB | John Holecek | 110 tackles, 1 INT |
| LB | Jay Foreman | 50 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Keith Newman | 62 tackles, 8 sacks |
| CB | Antoine Winfield | 42 tackles, 1 INT |
| CB | Nate Clements (R) | 68 tackles, 4 INTs* |
| SS | Henry Jones | 70 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Keion Carpenter | 33 tackles, 5 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Steve Christie | 31-31 XPs, 26-35 FGs |
| P | Jay Taylor (XFL) | 40 punts, 42.7 avg |
| KR | Chris Watson | 44 KR, 20.3 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Nate Clements (R) | 39 PR, 13.2 avg, 1 TD* |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Miles Aldridge, LBs; Steve Fairchild, RBs; Fred Graves, WRs; Jerry Gray, defensive coordinator; Steve Jackson, asst. DBs; Rusty Jones, strength and conditioning; Tommy Kaiser, off. asst.; Steve Kragthorpe, QBs; John Levra, DL; Dan Neal, TEs; Mike Sheppard, offensive coordinator; Danny Smith, special teams; Pat Thomas, DBs; Ronnie Vinklarek, OL

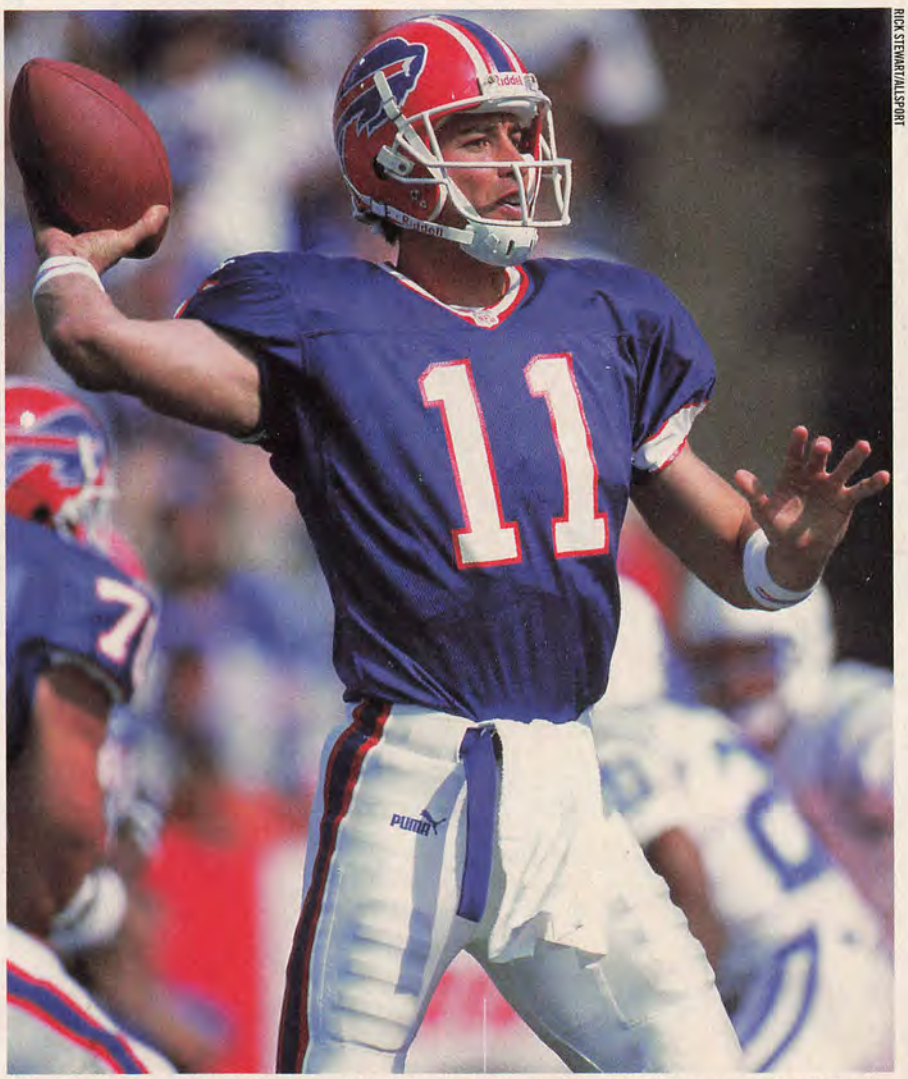
# New GM, coach build foundation for success

By the time the Bills limped home last year at 8-8, their valiant defense wrecked by injury, their offense just plain wrecked, it was clear the team needed a change.

Introducing new GM Tom Donahoe and coach Gregg Williams. Donahoe, a fine talent evaluator and league insider, helped build Pittsburgh's strong teams of the 1990s. Williams, who earned kudos for his defensive coaching at Tennessee, promises to invigorate the team on both sides of the ball. It's a good combo, and though the Bills have a long way to go, it appears they now have a foundation for success.

Williams made a major move in choosing QB Rob Johnson over the more-popular Doug Flutie. But salary-cap woes cost the Bills defensive end Marcellus Wiley and Pro Bowl nose-guard Ted Washington.

Buffalo needs to upgrade its running game, shore up an offensive line that allowed 59 sacks and develop depth on defense. It won't happen in one year, but with Donahoe and Williams around, things will move in a hurry.



RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT

*The Bills have staked their future to Johnson, who no longer has to worry about Flutie.*

**Quarterbacks** Flutie and his breakfast cereal are gone, for despite his ability to save the day, the Bills couldn't progress with Johnson looking over his shoulder.

Johnson, 10 years younger than Flutie, is stuck in glue compared to the scrappy Flutie's scrambling tactics, but he's better suited to the team's restructuring effort. The 6'4" signal-caller has a strong, accurate arm, but too often of late he's been forced to tuck the pigskin away and run for his life.

An improved running game and O-line would open up the pass for Johnson and improve his chances of staying healthy. He missed four games to injury in 2000, which was sometimes a blessing in disguise with Flutie around. If Johnson goes down this year, Buffalo will likely turn to one of two former Pitt QBs, Alex Van Pelt or Pete Gonzalez.

**Running Backs** Four players, all running backs on paper, carried 35-plus times last year. Not one gained more than 591 yards or had a per-carry average higher than 3.7. Talk about your erratic, struggling ground games.

The Bills need someone to emerge as a workhorse, and they'll look closely at Shawn Bryson and Sammy Morris. Bryson, Buffalo's top rusher, has a great combination of size (6'1", 233) and speed and was even used as a wideout at times last year. Morris is nearly the physical twin of Bryson, with good hands and a nose for the end zone. His pass-catching ability will be important in Buffalo's West Coast-style plans.

Antowain Smith and Jonathan Linton are each looking for second chances, but their stock is headed in the wrong direction. That's in contrast to draftee Travis Henry, a hard inside runner from Tennessee who refuses to fall down easily.

Fullback Josh Roth is an adequate blocker, but he lost his chance when the Bills signed free-agent Larry Centers, who holds the NFL record for passes caught by a running back (684).

**Receivers/Tight End** Eric Moulds cashed in on a franchise-record 94-catch season with a six-year, $40 million deal that included a $12 million signing bonus. He was enticed by the West Coast concept, even though he already had been lighting up the NFL. Moulds, who enters 2001 with at least one catch in 49 straight games, had seven 100-yard games last year. He has 3,688 yards receiving the past three seasons, which ranks fourth among NFL receivers in that span. Still, for all that dough, Buffalo will be looking for more than five TDs.

Moulds will have a good supporting cast in Peerless Price, Jeremy McDaniel and possibly draft pick Reggie Germany. Price is too talented not to start, but the Bills really like former practice-squad player Jeremy McDaniel (43 catches). Germany, a seventh-rounder, must get

## 2001 SCHEDULE
All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | NEW ORLEANS | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Miami | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Indianapolis | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | NEW YORK JETS | 4:05 |
| Oct. 14 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 18 | at Jacksonville | 8:30 |
| Oct. 28 | at San Diego | 4:15 |
| Nov. 4 | INDIANAPOLIS | 4:15 |
| Nov. 11 | at New England | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | MIAMI | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | at San Francisco | 8:30 |
| Dec. 9 | CAROLINA | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at New York Jets | 1:00 |

RALPH WILSON STADIUM (73,840)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
8-8, 4th in AFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | TENNESSEE | W, 16-13 |
| Sept. 10 | GREEN BAY | W, 27-18 |
| Sept. 17 | at New York Jets | L, 14-27 |
| Oct. 1 | INDIANAPOLIS | L, 16-18 |
| Oct. 8 | at Miami | L, 13-22 |
| Oct. 15 | SAN DIEGO | W, 27-24 |
| Oct. 22 | at Minnesota | L, 27-31 |
| Oct. 29 | NEW YORK JETS | W, 23-20 |
| Nov. 5 | at New England | W, 16-13 |
| Nov. 12 | CHICAGO | W, 20-3 |
| Nov. 19 | at Kansas City | W, 21-17 |
| Nov. 26 | at Tampa Bay | L, 17-31 |
| Dec. 3 | MIAMI | L, 6-33 |
| Dec. 11 | at Indianapolis | L, 20-44 |
| Dec. 17 | NEW ENGLAND | L, 10-13 |
| Dec. 23 | at Seattle | W, 42-23 |

## 2000 BILLS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 343.6 (9) | 120.1 (13) | 223.5 (11) | 19.7 (20) | 11 (21t) | 20 (15t) | 4.0 (18t) | 12.6 (4t) | 59 (29) | 309 (12) | 37.2 (20) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 276.6 (3) | 97.4 (6) | 179.2 (4) | 21.9 (18) | 13 (16t) | 18 (11t) | 3.5 (4) | 11.2 (10t) | 42 (12t) | 16 (18t) | 6 (10) |

## 2001 BILLS PRESEASON ROSTER

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **QUARTERBACKS** | | | | | |
| 7 | Gonzalez, Pete | 6'1" | 220 | 27 | 2 | Pittsburgh |
| 8 | Hasselbeck, Tim | 6'1" | 208 | 22 | R | Boston College |
| 11 | Johnson, Rob | 6'4" | 212 | 28 | 6 | USC |
| 10 | Van Pelt, Alex | 6'1" | 220 | 31 | 7 | Pittsburgh |
| | **RUNNING BACKS** | | | | | |
| 38 | Bryson, Shawn | 6'1" | 233 | 24 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 37 | Centers, Larry (FB) | 6'0" | 225 | 32 | 12 | S.F. Austin |
| 41 | Crosby, Phillip (FB) | 6'1" | 243 | 24 | 1 | Tennessee |
| 25 | Henry, Travis | 5'9" | 221 | 22 | R | Tennessee |
| 35 | Linton, Jonathan | 6'1" | 234 | 26 | 4 | North Carolina |
| 33 | Morris, Sammy | 6'0" | 228 | 24 | 2 | Texas Tech |
| 44 | Roth, Josh (FB) | 6'0" | 235 | 23 | R | Buffalo |
| 23 | Smith, Antowain | 6'2" | 228 | 29 | 5 | Houston |
| | **RECEIVERS** | | | | | |
| 89 | Black, Avion | 5'11" | 181 | 24 | 2 | Tennessee State |
| 16 | Campbell, Stephen | 6'2" | 210 | 23 | R | Brown |
| 82 | Cavil, Kwame | 6'2" | 203 | 22 | 2 | Texas |
| 84 | Collins, Bobby (TE) | 6'4" | 248 | 25 | 3 | North Alabama |
| 17 | Davison, Matt | 6'0" | 180 | 22 | R | Nebraska |
| 40 | Germany, Reggie | 6'1" | 196 | 23 | R | Ohio State |
| 88 | Jackson, Sheldon (TE) | 6'3" | 250 | 25 | 3 | Nebraska |
| 18 | Johnson, Teddy | 5'10" | 193 | 22 | R | Northwestern |
| 86 | McDaniel, Jeremy | 6'0" | 197 | 25 | 2 | Arizona |
| 80 | Moulds, Eric | 6'2" | 204 | 28 | 6 | Mississippi St. |
| 87 | O'Leary, Dan (TE) | 6'3" | 260 | 23 | R | Notre Dame |
| 19 | Pittman, Jonathan | 5'11" | 177 | 23 | R | BYU |
| 81 | Price, Peerless | 6'0" | 190 | 24 | 3 | Tennessee |
| 85 | Riemersma, Jay (TE) | 6'5" | 254 | 28 | 5 | Michigan |
| | **OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 66 | Allotey, Victor (G) | 6'3" | 320 | 26 | 2 | Indiana |
| 79 | Brown, Ruben (G) | 6'3" | 304 | 29 | 8 | Pittsburgh |
| 65 | Carman, Jon (T) | 6'7" | 335 | 25 | 2 | Georgia Tech |
| 63 | Conaty, Bill (C) | 6'2" | 300 | 28 | 5 | Virginia Tech |
| 64 | Cummins, Randall (C) | 6'2" | 288 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 72 | Farris, Kris (T) | 6'8" | 322 | 24 | 2 | UCLA |
| 70 | Fina, John (T) | 6'5" | 300 | 32 | 10 | Arizona |
| 77 | Hicks, Robert (T) | 6'7" | 330 | 26 | 4 | Mississippi St. |
| 71 | Hulsey, Corey (G) | 6'6" | 338 | 24 | R | Clemson |
| 75 | Jennings, Jonas (T) | 6'3" | 320 | 23 | R | Georgia |
| 61 | Lind, Josh (T) | 6'5" | 312 | 23 | R | Oklahoma St. |
| 60 | Ostroski, Jerry (G) | 6'3" | 327 | 31 | 8 | Tulsa |
| 74 | Sullivan, Marques (T) | 6'5" | 323 | 23 | R | Illinois |
| | **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 98 | Edwards, Ron (T) | 6'2" | 298 | 21 | R | Texas A&M |
| 94 | Fisher, Bryce (T) | 6'3" | 283 | 24 | 1 | Air Force |
| 96 | Flowers, Erik (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 23 | 2 | Arizona State |
| 90 | Hansen, Phil (E) | 6'5" | 273 | 33 | 11 | North Dakota St. |
| 97 | Larsen, Leif (E) | 6'4" | 295 | 26 | 2 | UTEP |
| 68 | Office, Kendrick (E) | 6'4" | 252 | 23 | R | West Alabama |
| 69 | Peterson, DeVonte (T) | 6'2" | 275 | 23 | R | Catawba |
| 92 | Robertson, Tyrone (T) | 6'4" | 277 | 21 | R | Hinds JC |
| 95 | Schobel, Aaron (E) | 6'3" | 261 | 24 | R | TCU |
| 93 | Williams, Pat (T) | 6'3" | 310 | 28 | 4 | Texas A&M |
| | **LINEBACKERS** | | | | | |
| 56 | Cowart, Sam | 6'2" | 245 | 26 | 4 | Florida State |
| 55 | Foreman, Jay | 6'1" | 240 | 24 | 3 | Nebraska |
| 50 | Green, Donny | 6'2" | 233 | 22 | R | Virginia |
| 52 | Holecek, John | 6'2" | 242 | 29 | 7 | Illinois |
| 99 | Jones, Fred | 6'2" | 246 | 23 | 2 | Colorado |
| 54 | Moore, Corey | 5'11" | 225 | 24 | 2 | Virginia Tech |
| 53 | Newman, Keith | 6'2" | 245 | 24 | 3 | North Carolina |
| 51 | Polk, Dashon | 6'2" | 235 | 24 | 2 | Arizona |
| 91 | Price, Shawn | 6'4" | 290 | 31 | 9 | U. of Pacific |
| 58 | Spoon, Brandon | 6'2" | 244 | 22 | R | North Carolina |
| 98 | Wright, Kenyatta | 6'0" | 238 | 23 | 2 | Oklahoma St. |
| | **DEFENSIVE BACKS** | | | | | |
| 31 | Brown, Lance | 6'2" | 203 | 29 | 5 | Indiana |
| 29 | Carpenter, Keion | 5'11" | 205 | 23 | 3 | Virginia Tech |
| 22 | Clements, Nate | 5'11" | 191 | 21 | R | Ohio State |
| 36 | Dinkins, David | 6'3" | 206 | 23 | R | Moorhead St. |
| 42 | Driver, Tony | 6'1" | 211 | 23 | R | Notre Dame |
| 39 | Hill, Raion | 6'0" | 200 | 24 | 2 | LSU |
| 24 | Hill, Ray | 6'0" | 192 | 26 | 4 | Michigan St. |
| 27 | Irvin, Ken | 5'11" | 186 | 29 | 7 | Memphis |
| 30 | Jackson, Courtney | 6'0" | 190 | 24 | 1 | Arizona State |
| 20 | Jones, Henry | 6'0" | 200 | 33 | 11 | Illinois |
| 28 | Tillman, Travares | 6'1" | 190 | 23 | 2 | Georgia Tech |
| 21 | Watson, Chris | 6'1" | 192 | 24 | 3 | Eastern Illinois |
| 37 | Williams, Jimmy | 5'10" | 184 | 23 | R | Vanderbilt |
| 26 | Winfield, Antoine | 5'9" | 180 | 24 | 3 | Ohio State |
| | **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| 2 | Christie, Steve (K) | 6'0" | 195 | 33 | 12 | William & Mary |
| 5 | Pidgeon, Pat (P) | 5'11" | 200 | 24 | 1 | Penn State |
| 3 | Taylor, Jay (K/P) | 6'1" | 183 | 24 | R | West Virginia |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Shawn Bryson has all the tools to become a first-rate running back. He just needs opportunity and a tougher offensive line.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Buffalo visits Miami in the second week of the season, giving Bills fans an early indication how the new regime is doing.

### KEY STAT

The Bills gave up 59 sacks last year. Johnson, not the scrambler Doug Flutie is, needs better protection to stay healthy.

*John Holecek*

### GLUE GUY

John Holecek doesn't get mentioned when the game's great linebackers are discussed, but few are tougher and more committed to the team.

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Nate Clements | CB, Ohio State |
| | Speedy cover man could start opposite Antoine Winfield. | |
| 2 | Aaron Schobel | DE, TCU |
| | Hustler who works hard on pass rush and can stop the run. | |
| 2 | Travis Henry | RB, Tennessee |
| | He will fight for time in a crowded backfield. | |
| 3 | Ron Edwards | DT, Texas A&M |
| | Quick and explosive, but he needs to add some heft. | |
| 3 | Jonas Jennings | OT, Georgia |
| | Not great height (6'3") for a tackle, but he's versatile. | |
| 4 | Brandon Spoon | LB, North Carolina |
| | Strong and fast inside guy who must remain healthy. | |
| 5 | Marques Sullivan | OT, Illinois |
| | Good athlete could become a solid right tackle in time. | |
| 6 | Tony Driver | S, Notre Dame |
| | A fast playmaker who can fly all over the field. | |
| 6 | Dan O'Leary | TE, Notre Dame |
| | Should give Bills some needed blocking help. | |
| 6 | Jimmy Williams | CB, Vanderbilt |
| | Can cover, but isn't ready to handle speedsters yet. | |
| 7 | Reggie Germany | WR, Ohio State |
| | Runs solid routes but lacks speed and toughness. | |
| 7 | Tyrone Robertson | DT, Hinds (Miss.) CC |
| | Unpolished but has some potential against the run. | |

**B** The Bills had big-time turnover in the off-season, so they reloaded with a passion. All 12 picks may not make the team, but count on early contributions from Clements and Schobel. Buffalo could have used more O-line talent.

tougher and faster to find steady work.

Although tight end Jay Riemersma missed four games with a sprained knee, he still caught 31 passes and tied Moulds for the team lead with five TD grabs. He should get even more opportunities in a West Coast scheme.

**Offensive Line** Left guard Ruben Brown is a Pro Bowler who knows how to throw his 300 pounds around. But he's alone in a unit that hasn't dominated the line of scrimmage since Thurman Thomas was darting through holes.

The Bills will move Jerry Ostroski from center to guard, where he belongs. That means inexperienced Billy Conaty will be given an opportunity.

John Fina at left tackle won't overpower anybody, but he is reliable. Robert Hicks moved back up the depth chart when Marcus Spriggs left via free agency, but now he's being pushed by rookies Marques Sullivan and Jonas Jennings.

**Defensive Line** The loss of Washington means Pat Williams takes over at nose-tackle. He's able to elude one-on-one blocks, but the man in the middle of a 3-4 must fight off two opponents to find the ball.

Phil Hansen took a pay cut to save his job at left end, but he needs to improve on last year's paltry two sacks. Buffalo sent him a message by drafting TCU's Aaron Schobel, a fine rush end who has a lot of heart against the run.

The other end belongs to second-year man Erik Flowers, a great athlete who struggled with a heel injury last year.

**Linebackers** Inside linebacker John Holecek played all last year with a torn tendon in his ankle and half the season with a broken thumb, but still had 110 tackles. How's that for leadership? Sam Cowart, who led the team with 129 stops, could move to the outside this year. That would free him up to chase the football more and open a spot for Jay Foreman or rookie Brandon Spoon.

The other outside spot shapes up as a battle between Corey Moore and incumbent Keith Newman, who had eight sacks last year and showed the speed to track down ball carriers from behind.

**Defensive Backs** Antoine Winfield and Ken Irvin return on the corners, but the Bills need more than a combined three picks from them. Irvin could lose his job to first-round pick Nate Clements, a good cover man inside 20 yards who was beaten long at times in college.

The Bills wanted Travares Tillman to be their free safety last year, but he couldn't handle the coverages, opening the door for Keion Carpenter, who responded with five picks. Those two will continue to battle. The strong safety spot belongs to Henry Jones, and rookie Tony Driver will get some nickel work at free safety thanks to his speed.

*Sam Cowart*

**Special Teams** Chris Watson's skills are suited to returning kicks, not punts, but Buffalo had no one better a year ago. Now the Bills have Clements, who will display some razzle-dazzle if given the chance.

Steve Christie is the franchise's all-time leading scorer, and he was re-signed despite being a career 78.6% field goal kicker. The punting job was up in the air at press time—either Jay Taylor or Pat Pidgeon will win it.

**Management** Donahoe will help Buffalo solve its cap problems and develop a nucleus that can win quickly. He began his regime decisively, choosing Johnson over Flutie, convincing Johnson and Holecek to restructure their contracts and re-signing Moulds.

Losing Wiley and Washington hurts, but Williams' Titans defenses played smart, sound, team ball. Williams will install multiple fronts to bring pressure on opposing offenses. He also will grind his players into more fit athletes, as evidenced by a taxing off-season workout program and the most grueling Bills minicamp in years.

*—Michael Bradley*

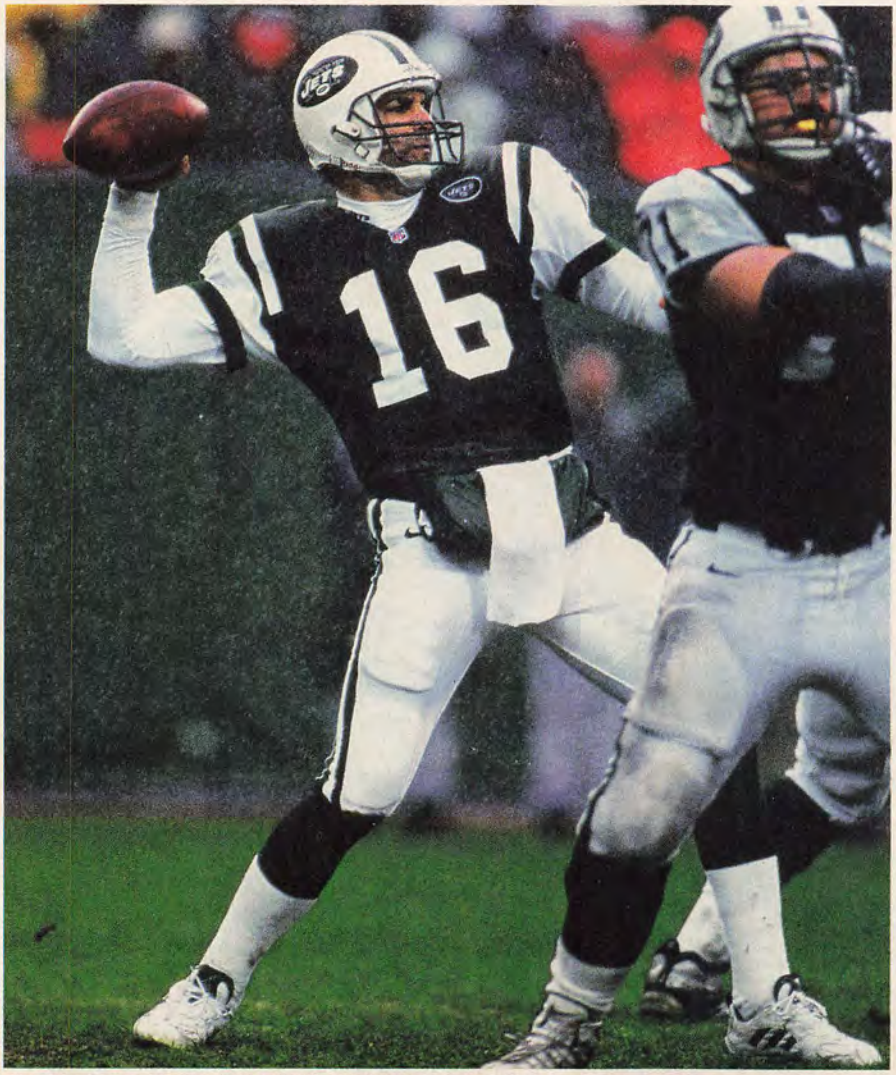
NFL (HOLECEK); ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

# Edwards, new schemes need some time to Groh

Continuity hasn't exactly been the norm in Jets camp recently. Rich Kotite didn't last long. Bill Parcells, despite his promises of postseason glory, didn't want to last long. Bill Belichick passed on the ride altogether. Al Groh? He spent all of one season parking at the Meadowlands before kissing the big, bad media hounds goodbye to take the head coaching job at his alma mater Virginia.

Enter former Tampa Bay assistant Herman Edwards, who must guide the Jets through what could be a difficult period. Not that any stint as Gang Green's leader is a walk in the park, but Edwards has a lot to accomplish. The first-time NFL head coach must rejuvenate his defense with young playmakers, find a way to turn all the offensive talent into more victories and begin an age-to-youth transition at quarterback.

And he has to do all this in a scratch-and-claw division in which each game is a rivalry. In other words, Edwards needs time. And unlike his most-recent predecessors, it would be nice if he took some to stabilize the franchise.



AL BELLO/ALLSPORT

***Can Testaverde, 37, thrive in the Jets' new West Coast offense, or is a storm brewing?***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

**QUARTERBACKS: 6.5**
Vinny's experienced, but his tank's almost empty.

**RUNNING BACKS: 8**
Martin's a meal ticket, Anderson a great target.

**RECEIVERS: 6**
Chrebet needs help from top-pick Moss. Now.

**OFFENSIVE LINE: 8**
One of the best in the league.

**DEFENSIVE LINE: 5**
The switch to a 4-3 will not be easy.

**LINEBACKERS: 7**
Jones and Lewis are two of the finest you'll see.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS: 6**
Quality front-line players, but there's little depth.

**SPECIAL TEAMS: 5**
This unit needs tightening in all areas.

**MANAGEMENT: 6**
Edwards has potential; Bradway knows his stuff.

**OVERALL: 6**
Transition team gets stepped on by East beasts.

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**4th in AFC East**

## JETS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Herman Edwards (1st year with New York)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Vinny Testaverde | 328-590, 3,732 yds, 21 TDs |
| RB | Curtis Martin | 316 car, 1,204 yds, 9 TDs |
| FB | Richie Anderson | 27 car, 63 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Anthony Becht | 16 rec, 144 yds, 2 TDs |
| WR | Wayne Chrebet | 69 rec, 937 yds, 8 TDs |
| WR | Matthew Hatchette (MIN) | 16 rec, 190 yds, 2 TDs |
| LT | Jason Fabini | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Kerry Jenkins | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Kevin Mawae | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Randy Thomas | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Ryan Young | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Shane Burton | 49 tackles, 1 sack |
| DT | Shaun Ellis | 53 tackles, 8.5 sacks |
| DT | Jason Ferguson | 45 tackles, 1 sack |
| DE | Dorian Boose | 8 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | James Farrior | 56 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Marvin Jones | 135 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Mo Lewis | 88 tackles, 10 sacks |
| CB | Marcus Coleman | 56 tackles, 4 INTs |
| CB | Aaron Glenn | 37 tackles, 4 INTs |
| SS | Victor Green | 105 tackles, 6 INTs |
| FS | Damien Robinson (TB) | 71 tackles, 6 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | John Hall | 30-30 XPs, 21-32 FGs |
| P | Tom Tupa | 83 punts, 44.7 avg |
| KR | Laveranues Coles | 11 KR, 18.8 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Santana Moss (R) | 36 PR, 18.2 avg, 4 TDs* |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Bill Bradley, DBs; Rubin Carter, DL; Ted Cottrell, defensive coordinator; Paul Hackett, offensive coordinator; Bishop Harris, RBs; Mike Henning, off. asst.; Lou Hernandez, asst. strength and conditioning; John Lott, strength and conditioning; David Merritt, def. asst.; Bill Muir, OL; Phil Pettey, TEs; Eric Price, off. asst.; Mose Rison, WRs; Bob Sutton, LBs; Mike Westhoff, special teams

**Quarterbacks** Vinny Testaverde is convinced he can run new coordinator Paul Hackett's West Coast offense, and his commitment to the team's off-season conditioning program showed he's serious about learning. Testaverde didn't retreat to his Florida home, instead sticking around to work. He needs it. Testaverde completed just 55.6% of his passes last year and threw a whopping 25 interceptions, which led all NFL signal-callers.

If Testaverde struggles, expect Hackett to turn to Chad Pennington, one of New York's four first-round picks in 2000. Pennington has all the tools and smarts to run the attack. He just needs experience. If the Jets stagger from the gate, Pennington might get his shot.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | INDIANAPOLIS | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Oakland | 4:15 |
| Sept. 23 | at New England | 4:05 |
| Oct. 1 | SAN FRANCISCO | 9:00 |
| Oct. 7 | at Buffalo | 4:05 |
| Oct. 14 | MIAMI | 4:15 |
| Oct. 21 | ST. LOUIS | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | at Carolina | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | at New Orleans | 8:30 |
| Nov. 11 | KANSAS CITY | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at Miami | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | Open Date | |
| Dec. 2 | NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at Pittsburgh | 4:15 |
| Dec. 16 | CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Indianapolis | 8:30 |
| Dec. 30 | BUFFALO | 1:00 |

GIANTS STADIUM (79,466)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

9-7, 3rd in AFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Green Bay | W, 20-16 |
| Sept. 11 | NEW ENGLAND | W, 20-19 |
| Sept. 17 | BUFFALO | W, 27-14 |
| Sept. 24 | at Tampa Bay | W, 21-17 |
| Oct. 8 | PITTSBURGH | L, 3-20 |
| Oct. 15 | at New England | W, 34-17 |
| Oct. 23 | MIAMI | W, 40-37 |
| Oct. 29 | at Buffalo | L, 20-23 |
| Nov. 5 | DENVER | L, 23-30 |
| Nov. 12 | at Indianapolis | L, 15-23 |
| Nov. 19 | at Miami | W, 20-3 |
| Nov. 26 | CHICAGO | W, 17-10 |
| Dec. 3 | INDIANAPOLIS | W, 27-17 |
| Dec. 10 | at Oakland | L, 7-31 |
| Dec. 17 | DETROIT | L, 7-10 |
| Dec. 24 | at Baltimore | L, 20-34 |

**Running Backs** The Curtis Martin-Richie Anderson tandem is one of the league's finest. They complement each other well and catch the ball out of the backfield better than any other duo. Martin is a smooth runner with deceptive speed to get to the corner. And no Jet fan worth his weight in green face paint can forget his game-winning TD pass to Wayne Chrebet to beat Tampa Bay last year.

If draftee LaMont Jordan can save Martin from taking trench poundings every now and then, Edwards will be in heaven. Jordan, who's built like a fullback, may get more carries than starting fullback Anderson. But the Pro Bowler—he made a team-high 88 catches—blocks like a man 30 pounds heavier than his 230 pounds. Anderson's backup, 245-pound Jerald Sowell, has had 52 carries in four pro seasons.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** No one will ever dispute Chrebet's heart or ability to make clutch catches. But let's face it, the guy is not a gamebreaker. He's a smart, driven possession receiver whom coaches love and fans root for.

Chrebet needs someone to stretch defenses and let him create in the shorter distances. Dedric Ward was not the answer, so his departure to Miami means little. Matthew Hatchette might not be the answer, but the Jets are willing to try their luck that a diamond in the rough has been toiling in Minnesota. Hatchette certainly wants to show he deserved more playing time as a Viking.

Laveranues Coles and Windrell Hayes will show up in long-yardage spots, but both still need work. All that creates the perfect scenario for No. 1 pick Santana Moss, a speedster whom Edwards says commands respect "because a five-yard out pass can become a 70-yard touchdown." That big-play ability and track-star speed will gain Moss entry in three-wideout sets and possibly the starting lineup by the end of the season.

Second-year tight end Anthony Becht enjoyed a solid debut, but he must improve as a blocker to become a regu-

## 2000 JETS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 337.2 (12) | 91.9 (24) | 245.3 (6) | 20.1 (17t) | 11 (21t) | 23 (8) | 3.5 (26t) | 11.4 (15t) | 20 (1t) | 308 (13) | 38.2 (17) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 301.3 (10t) | 118.0 (23) | 183.3 (6) | 20.1 (13) | 9 (6t) | 17 (9t) | 4.0 (11t) | 11.9 (22) | 40 (15t) | 21 (6t) | -5 (20t) |

## 2001 JETS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | Pennington, Chad | 6'3" | 225 | 25 | 2 | Marshall |
| 16 | Testaverde, Vinny | 6'5" | 235 | 37 | 15 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 7 | Tupa, Tom (QB/P) | 6'4" | 225 | 35 | 13 | Ohio State |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | Anderson, Richie (FB) | 6'2" | 230 | 29 | 9 | Penn State |
| 39 | Comella, Matt (FB) | 5'11" | 235 | 24 | R | Northeastern |
| 32 | Jackson, Marlion | 6'2" | 240 | 23 | 1 | Saginaw Valley St. |
| 34 | Jordan, LaMont | 5'10" | 230 | 22 | R | Maryland |
| 62 | Keith, Dustin | 5'10" | 230 | 22 | R | Virginia |
| 28 | Martin, Curtis | 5'11" | 210 | 28 | 7 | Pittsburgh |
| 33 | Sowell, Jerald (FB) | 6'0" | 245 | 27 | 5 | Tulane |
| 29 | White, Reggie | 6'0" | 228 | 22 | R | Oklahoma St. |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Alston, Corey | 6'1" | 213 | 22 | R | Western Mich. |
| 88 | Becht, Anthony (TE) | 6'5" | 267 | 24 | 2 | West Virginia |
| 80 | Chrebet, Wayne | 5'10" | 188 | 28 | 7 | Hofstra |
| 87 | Coles, Laveranues | 5'11" | 190 | 23 | 2 | Florida State |
| 48 | Dearth, James (TE) | 6'4" | 269 | 25 | 1 | Tarleton State |
| 15 | Farmer, Matt | 6'0" | 190 | 24 | 1 | Air Force |
| 81 | Hatchette, Matthew | 6'3" | 193 | 27 | 5 | Langston |
| 86 | Hayes, Windrell | 5'11" | 198 | 24 | 2 | USC |
| 82 | Johnson, Malcolm | 6'5" | 215 | 24 | 3 | Notre Dame |
| 85 | Kitchings, Desmond | 5'9" | 179 | 23 | 1 | Furman |
| 37 | Moreland, Jake (FB-TE) | 6'3" | 255 | 24 | 2 | Western Mich. |
| 83 | Moss, Santana | 5'10' | 185 | 22 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 14 | Myers, Shannon | 6'1" | 194 | 28 | 1 | Lenoir-Rhyne |
| 84 | Slutzker, Scott (TE) | 6'4" | 240 | 28 | 5 | Iowa |
| 40 | Wilcox, Daniel (TE) | 6'1" | 229 | 24 | R | Appalachian St. |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 66 | Bonito, Matt (G) | 6'7" | 294 | 24 | R | Michigan State |
| 65 | Bristol, Mark (T) | 6'6" | 305 | 23 | R | Mansfield |
| 76 | Elliott, Jumbo (T) | 6'7" | 305 | 36 | 14 | Michigan |
| 69 | Fabini, Jason (T) | 6'7" | 312 | 27 | 4 | Cincinnati |
| 78 | Green, Cornell (T) | 6'6" | 320 | 27 | 2 | Central Florida |
| 71 | Jenkins, Kerry (G-T) | 6'5" | 305 | 27 | 4 | Troy State |
| 79 | Loverne, David (G) | 6'3" | 299 | 25 | 3 | San Jose State |
| 63 | Machado, J.P. (C-G) | 6'4" | 300 | 25 | 3 | Illinois |
| 68 | Mawae, Kevin (C-G) | 6'4" | 305 | 30 | 8 | LSU |
| 67 | McKenzie, Kareem (T) | 6'6" | 327 | 22 | R | Penn State |
| 60 | O'Sullivan, Dennis (C) | 6'3" | 300 | 25 | 1 | Tulane |
| 70 | Slaughter, Chad (T) | 6'7" | 344 | 23 | 2 | Alcorn State |
| 64 | Peko, Situpe (C-G) | 6'4" | 298 | 22 | R | Michigan St. |
| 77 | Thomas, Randy (G) | 6'4" | 301 | 25 | 3 | Mississippi St. |
| 74 | Young, Ryan (T) | 6'5" | 320 | 25 | 3 | Kansas State |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 94 | Abraham, John (E-LB) | 6'3" | 250 | 23 | 2 | South Carolina |
| 73 | Anderson, Maurice (T) | 6'3" | 280 | 26 | 2 | Virginia |
| 97 | Boose, Dorian (E) | 6'5" | 292 | 27 | 4 | Washington St. |
| 98 | Burton, Shane (E-T) | 6'6" | 305 | 27 | 6 | Tennessee |
| 92 | Ellis, Shaun (E) | 6'5" | 280 | 24 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 72 | Ferguson, Jason (T) | 6'3" | 305 | 26 | 5 | Georgia |
| 96 | Michals, Jon (E) | 6'4" | 282 | 24 | 1 | Minnesota |
| 99 | Ogbogu, Eric (E) | 6'4" | 285 | 26 | 4 | Maryland |
| 95 | Patu, Saul (E) | 6'3" | 272 | 23 | R | Oregon |
| 93 | Reed, James (T) | 6'0" | 286 | 24 | R | Iowa State |
| 61 | Viger, David (T) | 6'4" | 281 | 26 | 1 | Navy |
| 91 | Wiltz, Jason (E-T) | 6'4" | 300 | 24 | 3 | Nebraska |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 52 | Colman, Doug | 6'2" | 250 | 28 | 6 | Nebraska |
| 51 | Darling, James | 6'0" | 250 | 26 | 5 | Washington St. |
| 58 | Farrior, James | 6'2" | 244 | 26 | 5 | Virginia |
| 43 | Humphrey, Aaron | 6'2" | 260 | 23 | 1 | Texas |
| 55 | Jones, Marvin | 6'2" | 250 | 29 | 9 | Florida State |
| 53 | Ledyard, Courtney | 6'2" | 250 | 24 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 57 | Lewis, Mo | 6'3" | 258 | 31 | 11 | Georgia |
| 49 | Moses, Kelvin | 6'0" | 234 | 24 | 1 | Wake Forest |
| 46 | Strohmeyer, Dax | 6'4" | 235 | 24 | 1 | Rutgers |
| 50 | Syvrud, J.J. | 6'3" | 255 | 24 | 2 | Jamestown |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 | Burroughs, Noah | 6'0" | 203 | 25 | R | Buffalo |
| 42 | Coleman, Marcus | 6'2" | 210 | 27 | 6 | Texas Tech |
| 25 | Ferguson, Nick | 5'11" | 201 | 26 | 2 | Georgia Tech |
| 47 | Frost, Scott | 6'3" | 219 | 26 | 4 | Nebraska |
| 31 | Glenn, Aaron | 5'9" | 185 | 29 | 8 | Texas A&M |
| 21 | Green, Victor | 5'11" | 210 | 31 | 9 | Akron |
| 30 | Hayes, Chris | 6'0" | 206 | 29 | 5 | Washington St. |
| 23 | Henderson, Jamie | 6'2" | 202 | 22 | R | Georgia |
| 24 | Mickens, Ray | 5'8" | 184 | 28 | 6 | Texas A&M |
| 38 | Moreland, Earthwind | 5'11" | 185 | 24 | 2 | Georgia Southern |
| 22 | Robinson, Damien | 6'2" | 214 | 27 | 5 | Iowa |
| 27 | Scott, Tony | 5'10" | 193 | 24 | 2 | N.C. State |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Hall, John (K) | 6'3" | 228 | 27 | 5 | Wisconsin |
| 1 | Parks, Tom (P) | 6'2" | 225 | 30 | 1 | Mississippi St. |

lar member in what is expected to be a more spread-out offense.

**Offensive Line** There may not be a better one in the NFL. The Jets have a strong quintet of tough players with excellent technique. Center Kevin Mawae is one of the best in the league and rates as the team's top free-agent pickup in recent years. Flanking him to the right is Randy Thomas, who should be getting Pro Bowl consideration soon.

Both tackles, Jason Fabini and Ryan Young, are physical players with enough quickness and smarts to handle nearly everyone they face. That leaves left guard as the only questionable slot. Kerry Jenkins is the favorite there, but he'll be pushed by David Loverne and rookie Kareem McKenzie, a college tackle who's versatile enough to move.

**Defensive Line** Edwards is installing a 4-3 this year, opening up another position inside. That's not necessarily a good thing. The Jets gave Jason Ferguson a four-year, $12.7 million deal during the off-season that may be risky. He did, after all, lose his starting job last year.

Ferguson could start up front along with Shaun Ellis, Shane Burton and Dorian Boose. It's a foursome that doesn't have a lot of big-play history, save for Ellis. A first-rounder last year, Ellis can shed blockers and will his way to the passer. Boose, who has never started a game in three pro seasons, could give way to re-signed Eric Ogbogu or the promising John Abraham.

*Wayne Chrebet*

**Linebackers** Gone are Bryan Cox, Dwayne Gordon and Roman Phifer—and their big salaries. In are James Darling and Doug Colman. Not exactly big-name players, but then again, the Jets will start only three backers, and Marvin Jones and Mo Lewis are locks.

Lewis is the Jets' best pass rusher—he has 30.5 sacks the past four years. Even at 31, he'll bring it from one side. James Farrior will do the same on the other, but his spot is where Darling and Colman figure to sub in the most.

Jones won't break up many passes or drill the QB often, but when opponents run the ball, expect Jones to climb out of the pile. He has averaged 114 tackles the past four seasons.

**Defensive Backs** The Jets are in good shape here. Strong safety Victor Green is a proven run stopper. The corner spots are set with Aaron Glenn and Marcus Coleman, each of whom had four picks in 2000. These guys are physical and can be creative after the INT.

The kicker was signing Bucs free safety Damien Robinson. Inked to a five-year deal, Robinson will police the secondary and make everyone around him better. A favorite of Edwards, Robinson had twice as many picks (six) as the trio of Chris Hayes, Scott Frost and Nick Ferguson, who split the job in 2000.

**Special Teams** John Hall has a nuclear leg, but he must get more accurate. Hall made just 6 of 12 field goals from 40-49 yards last year, irking Groh so much that Brett Conway was brought in for the season finale. Tom Tupa remains a strong punter, and as a reserve QB, he's always a threat to fake. Coles and Windrell Hayes can return kicks, and Moss will pack some punch on punt returns. Watch him fly.

**Management** The Jets, as always, had quite the busy off-season. Proven personnel man Terry Bradway was hired as GM, and he brought in Edwards. After a significant amount of player turnover, the Jets drew even more tabloid headlines with rumors that billionaire owner Woody Johnson would move the team to Los Angeles if funding wasn't appropriated for a new West Side Manhattan stadium. It was strictly rumor.

The new regime represents a break from the Parcells era. The offense will spread its wings, and the defense will change styles. Edwards, now working close to where he was born in New Jersey, hopes to get closer with staff and players. After all, he's in this for the long haul. Isn't he?

*—Michael Bradley*

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Matthew Hatchette, once buried behind Randy Moss and Cris Carter in Minnesota, arrives with lots of promise. Can he produce as a starter?

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

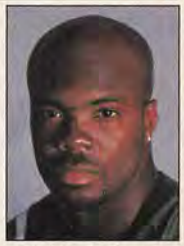
After opening at home versus the Colts, Gang Green heads to California to play Oakland on Sept. 16. The Jets will know in a hurry if they can hang with AFC powers.

### KEY STAT

New York turned the ball over 40 times last year, and in the end, that cost it a playoff berth. The Jets must reduce that total.

### GLUE GUY

FB Richie Anderson catches a ton of passes, delivers bone-rattling blocks and knows how to bail his team out.



***Richie Anderson***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

1 **Santana Moss** WR, Miami
His great speed will help the passing and return games.

2 **LaMont Jordan** RB, Maryland
A short-yardage bruiser to spell Curtis Martin.

3 **Kareem McKenzie** OT, Penn State
A huge backup tackle gives the Jets outside depth.

4 **Jamie Henderson** DB, Georgia
A corner by trade, he could also help out at safety.

7 **James Reed** DT, Iowa State
The Jets need help here, so work might be available.

7 **Tupe Peko** C, Michigan State
Will be hard-pressed to stick, unless he moves to guard.

**B+** With apologies to Keyshawn Johnson, New York may never have had a more explosive and dynamic scoring threat than Santana Moss. The Jets were thrilled to draft him, and they will give him a chance to return kicks and compete for a starting wideout job. Herman Edwards is big on LaMont Jordan, who, at 5'10", 230 pounds, is just plain big. He projects more as a third-and-one ball carrier than a blocking fullback, and he can give Curtis Martin breathers. Kareem McKenzie could have gone higher. He's 6'6", 327, with long arms and the potential to play anywhere on the line but center. A poor senior year, plus the label of being an occasionally sloppy and lazy blocker, hurt his stock. Jamie Henderson will start with special teams until he gains seasoning. Average late-round picks turned a possible A-rated draft into one that was simply very good.

NFL (ANDERSON); RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT

# New England PATRIOTS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **7** |
| Bledsoe can throw, but he's starved for scores. | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **4** |
| Lack of a feature back hurts the ground game. | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **6.5** |
| Glenn and Brown are productive; depth is key. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **4** |
| Woody and the four question marks. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **5** |
| Memo to rivals: Go inside until Seymour's ready. | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **7** |
| If Johnson stays healthy, this group can be good. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **6.5** |
| Milloy and Law are top-shelf; the rest need work. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **7** |
| What Izzo? He's a special team guru. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **6** |
| Belichick gets points for intensity. | |
| **OVERALL:** | **5.5** |
| The Pats will be better, but everything's relative. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**5th in AFC East**

## PATRIOTS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Bill Belichick (5-11 with New England)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Drew Bledsoe | 312-531, 3,291 yds, 17 TDs |
| RB | J.R. Redmond | 125 car, 406 yds, 1 TD |
| FB | Marc Edwards (CLE) | 2 car, 9 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Rod Rutledge | 15 rec,103 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | Terry Glenn | 79 rec, 963 yds, 6 TDs |
| WR | Troy Brown | 83 rec, 944 yds, 4 TDs |
| LT | Grant Williams | 15 games, 8 starts |
| LG | Joe Panos (BUF) | 13 games, 0 starts |
| C | Damien Woody | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Mike Compton (DET) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Greg Robinson-Randall | 12 games, 4 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Willie McGinest | 63 tackles, 6 sacks |
| DT | Richard Seymour (R) | 78 tackles, 1 sack* |
| DT | Garrett Johnson | 11 tackles, 0 sacks |
| DE | Bobby Hamilton | 79 tackles, 1.5 sacks |
| LB | Andy Katzenmoyer | 22 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Ted Johnson | 73 tackles, 0.5 sacks |
| LB | Tedy Bruschi | 106 tackles, 1 sack |
| CB | Ty Law | 74 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Otis Smith | 69 tackles, 1 INT |
| SS | Lawyer Milloy | 121 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Tebucky Jones | 55 tackles, 2 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Adam Vinatieri | 25-25 XPs, 27-33 FGs |
| P | Lee Johnson | 89 punts, 42.7 avg |
| KR | Kevin Faulk | 38 KR, 21.5 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Troy Brown | 39 PR, 12.9 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

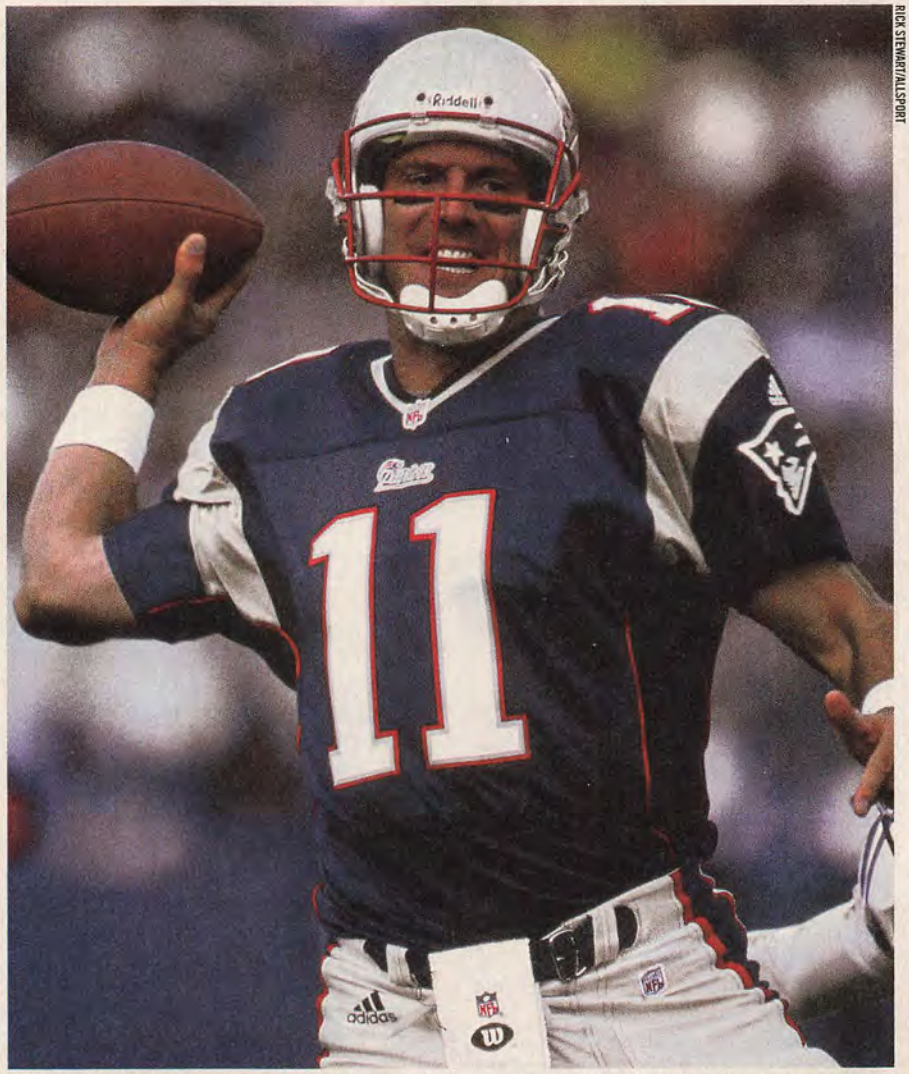
Ned Burke, staff asst.; Romeo Crennel, defensive coordinator; Jeff Davidson, asst. OL; Ivan Fears, WR; Pepper Johnson, LBs; Eric Mangini, DBs; Randy Melvin, DL; Dick Rehbein, QBs; Rob Ryan, LBs; Dante Scarnecchia, OL; Brad Seely, special teams; Charlie Weis, offensive coordinator; Mike Woicik, strength and conditioning

# New England's chowder in final year at Foxboro

If all else fails this year—and given the Patriots' gaping holes at many positions, plenty will—at least New England fans can look forward to the postseason demolition of Foxboro Stadium and the 2002 debut of CMGI Field. That's the great thing about new stadiums. Even if the team struggles, at least its fans can enjoy new hot dog carts and cleaner bathrooms.

Not that the the Pats will be dreadful in Foxboro's farewell tour, but in an AFC that boasts the most balance and overall talent in its 30-plus years of existence, progress will be hard to measure. Coach Bill Belichick will no doubt field a better team than last year, if only because he has had 20 months to turn over the roster.

But New England has to improve its running game and shore up its defense to become a player in the AFC East. Nine of the Pats' 11 losses last year were by eight points or less. Blame an inconsistent offense and a defense that caved when it counted. Without the influx of impact talent via free agency and the draft, it's no wonder the arrival




RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT

***Bledsoe may have peaked, but the Pats have chosen to build their future around him.***

of a wrecking ball is shaping up to be the most exciting thing at Foxboro this year.

**Quarterbacks** Drew Bledsoe had a solid 2000 season, but he seems to have reached a plateau in his development. Many of the problems he has experienced since entering the league persist. His 58.8% completion rate is not outstanding. He still doesn't avoid the rush that well, and he doesn't deliver the ball downfield all that accurately.

But the Pats are thin on stars, and at 29, Bledsoe is still young enough to build around. So this off-season team owner Robert Kraft gave the No. 1 overall pick in the 1993 draft a 10-year, $103 million contract extension.

The Pats upgraded their backup role by signing Damon Huard, formerly of the Dolphins. Youngsters Michael Bishop and Tom Brady will get extended exhibition looks.

**Running Backs** Patriots fans should know better than to expect much from Robert Edwards, who returns after missing two seasons following a grisly knee injury. Edwards did gain 1,115 yards in '98, but he might not play again, no matter how optimistic he is.

That would leave the Pats with second-year man J.R. Redmond and Kevin Faulk at running back. Though Redmond showed promise last year, he averaged just 3.2 ypc and might be better suited to third-down work. But Faulk has yet to prove himself an every-down back, so someone has to take the carries.

The arrival of free-agent fullback Marc Edwards, a 6'0", 240-pound bruiser, might boost the running game. Edwards is a selfless blocker who isn't afraid to put a lick on a bigger linebacker.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The off-season additions of Bert Emanuel and David Patten gives New England five capable receivers entering camp.

Terry Glenn and Troy Brown, the incumbents, combined for 162 catches last year, but scored only 10 TDs between them. Glenn is elusive enough to rank among the league leaders, but Brown will have to improve to keep veteran Emanuel out of the starting lineup. Those three form a swift three-receiver set, and the unit gets even faster when Patten and Tony Simmons, both long ball threats, are inserted.

Tight ends Ron Rutledge and Jermaine Wiggins are serviceable, but neither is a standout. Notre Dame's Jabari Holloway, a fourth-round draft choice, has the potential to be a dangerous target as he matures. Sixth-rounder Arthur Love of South Carolina State is raw.

**Offensive Line** Belichick collected linemen like crazy during the off-sea-

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Cincinnati | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Carolina | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | NEW YORK JETS | 4:05 |
| Sept. 30 | INDIANAPOLIS | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | at Miami | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Indianapolis | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | at Denver | 4:15 |
| Nov. 4 | at Atlanta | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | ST. LOUIS | 8:30 |
| Nov. 25 | NEW ORLEANS | 4:05 |
| Dec. 2 | at New York Jets | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Buffalo | 1:00 |
| Dec. 22 | MIAMI | 12:30 |
| Dec. 30 | Open Date | |

FOXBORO STADIUM (60,292)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

5-11, 5th in AFC EAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | TAMPA BAY | L, 16-21 |
| Sept. 11 | at New York Jets | L, 19-20 |
| Sept. 17 | MINNESOTA | L, 13-21 |
| Sept. 24 | at Miami | L, 3-10 |
| Oct. 1 | at Denver | W, 28-19 |
| Oct. 8 | INDIANAPOLIS | W, 24-16 |
| Oct. 15 | NEW YORK JETS | L, 17-34 |
| Oct. 22 | at Indianapolis | L, 23-30 |
| Nov. 5 | BUFFALO | L, 13-16 |
| Nov. 12 | at Cleveland | L, 11-19 |
| Nov. 19 | CINCINNATI | W, 16-13 |
| Nov. 23 | at Detroit | L, 9-34 |
| Dec. 4 | KANSAS CITY | W, 30-24 |
| Dec. 10 | at Chicago | L, 17-24 |
| Dec. 17 | at Buffalo | W, 13-10 |
| Dec. 24 | MIAMI | L, 24-27 |

## 2000 PATRIOTS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 290.6 (21) | 129.1 (9) | 161.4 (26) | 24.3 (6t) | 18 (5t) | 18 (20) | 4.2 (12t) | 11.9 (12t) | 38 (16) | 275 (23) | 33.3 (26) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 300.0 (9) | 103.0 (9) | 197.0 (13) | 16.8 (7t) | 12 (12t) | 15 (7) | 4.1 (15t) | 10.3 (1) | 55 (2t) | 25 (3t) | 17 (3t) |

## 2001 PATRIOTS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | Bishop, Michael | 6'2" | 215 | 25 | 3 | Kansas State |
| 11 | Bledsoe, Drew | 6'5" | 240 | 29 | 9 | Washington St. |
| 12 | Brady, Tom | 6'4" | 210 | 24 | 2 | Michigan |
| 19 | Huard, Damon | 6'3" | 217 | 28 | 5 | Washington |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 42 | Bowie, Larry (FB) | 6'0" | 249 | 28 | 5 | Georgia |
| 44 | Edwards, Marc (FB) | 6'0" | 240 | 26 | 5 | Notre Dame |
| 47 | Edwards, Robert | 5'11" | 218 | 26 | 3 | Georgia |
| 33 | Faulk, Kevin | 5'8" | 200 | 25 | 3 | LSU |
| 35 | Pass, Patrick | 5'10" | 215 | 25 | 2 | Georgia |
| 46 | Paulk, Jeff (FB) | 6'0" | 240 | 25 | 3 | Arizona State |
| 21 | Redmond, J.R. | 5'11" | 210 | 23 | 2 | Arizona State |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 80 | Brown, Troy | 5'10" | 190 | 30 | 9 | Marshall |
| 18 | Daniels, Ronney | 6'1" | 212 | 24 | R | Auburn |
| 84 | Davis, Shockmain | 6'0" | 205 | 24 | 2 | Angelo State |
| 86 | Eitzmann, Chris (TE) | 6'5" | 255 | 24 | 2 | Harvard |
| 17 | Emanuel, Bert | 5'10" | 185 | 30 | 8 | Rice |
| 49 | Holloway, Jabari (TE) | 6'2" | 255 | 22 | R | Notre Dame |
| 88 | Glenn, Terry | 5'11" | 195 | 27 | 6 | Ohio State |
| 82 | Jackson, Curtis | 5'10" | 190 | 27 | 2 | Texas |
| 87 | Looker, Dane | 6'0" | 193 | 25 | 2 | Washington |
| 48 | Love, Arther (TE) | 6'4" | 250 | 23 | R | S. Carolina St. |
| 19 | Morey, Sean | 5'11" | 190 | 25 | 2 | Brown |
| 15 | Patten, David | 5'10" | 193 | 27 | 5 | Western Carolina |
| 83 | Rutledge, Rod (TE) | 6'5" | 270 | 26 | 4 | Alabama |
| 81 | Simmons, Tony | 6'1" | 210 | 26 | 4 | Wisconsin |
| 85 | Wiggins, Jermaine (TE) | 6'2" | 255 | 26 | 2 | Georgia |
| 14 | Williams, Walter | 6'0" | 205 | 23 | R | Grambling |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 63 | Andruzzi, Joe (G) | 6'3" | 315 | 26 | 5 | S.Connecticut St. |
| 75 | Beadles, Terrance (G) | 6'3" | 300 | 25 | 2 | Ark.-Pine Bluff |
| 77 | Compton, Mike (G) | 6'6" | 298 | 30 | 9 | West Virginia |
| 61 | Davis, Adam (G) | 6'4" | 300 | 23 | 1 | Oklahoma St. |
| 69 | Gatrell, Rob (G) | 6'5" | 300 | 24 | 1 | Fresno State |
| 60 | Inzer, Drew (T) | 6'4" | 315 | 21 | R | Brown |
| 72 | Isaia, Sale (C) | 6'5" | 320 | 29 | 5 | UCLA |
| 68 | Jones, Kenyatta (G) | 6'3" | 315 | 22 | R | South Florida |
| 70 | Klemm, Adrian (T) | 6'3" | 310 | 24 | 2 | Hawaii |
| 71 | Light, Matt (G) | 6'4" | 305 | 23 | R | Purdue |
| 72 | Panos, Joe (G) | 6'3" | 300 | 30 | 7 | Wisconsin |
| 62 | Rawlings, Josh (T) | 6'3" | 305 | 24 | 1 | Minnesota |
| 64 | Robinson-Randall, Greg (T) | 6'5" | 315 | 23 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 67 | Ruegamer, Grey (C) | 6'5" | 310 | 25 | 2 | Arizona State |
| 76 | Williams, Grant (T) | 6'7" | 325 | 27 | 6 | Louisiana Tech |
| 65 | Woody, Damien (C) | 6'3" | 315 | 23 | 3 | Boston College |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 97 | Grimes, Reggie (E) | 6'4" | 290 | 24 | 2 | Alabama |
| 91 | Hamilton, Bobby (E) | 6'5" | 280 | 30 | 7 | Southern Miss |
| 60 | Johnson, Garrett (T) | 6'3" | 295 | 25 | 2 | Illinois |
| 55 | McGinest, Willie (E) | 6'5" | 270 | 29 | 8 | USC |
| 99 | Mitchell, Brandon (E) | 6'3" | 285 | 26 | 5 | Texas A&M |
| 92 | Nugent, David (T) | 6'4" | 300 | 23 | 2 | Purdue |
| 71 | Osborne, Chuck (T) | 6'2" | 290 | 27 | 6 | Arizona |
| 98 | Pleasant, Anthony (E) | 6'5" | 280 | 33 | 12 | Tennessee St. |
| 93 | Seymour, Richard (T) | 6'6" | 300 | 21 | R | Georgia |
| 94 | Spires, Greg (E) | 6'1" | 265 | 27 | 4 | Florida State |
| 51 | Vrabel, Mike (E) | 6'4" | 250 | 26 | 5 | Ohio State |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 54 | Bruschi, Tedy | 6'1" | 245 | 28 | 6 | Arizona |
| 58 | Chatham, Matt | 6'4" | 240 | 24 | 2 | South Dakota |
| 90 | Dalton, Antico | 6'1" | 240 | 25 | 1 | Hampton |
| 50 | Holmberg, Rob | 6'3" | 240 | 30 | 8 | Penn State |
| 39 | Isabelle, Yubrenal | 6'0" | 230 | 22 | R | Virginia |
| 53 | Izzo, Larry | 5'10" | 228 | 26 | 5 | Rice |
| 52 | Johnson, Ted | 6'4" | 255 | 28 | 7 | Colorado |
| 59 | Katzenmoyer, Andy | 6'3" | 255 | 23 | 3 | Ohio State |
| 66 | Paxton, Lonie | 6'2" | 260 | 23 | 2 | Sacramento St. |
| 37 | Turner, T.J. | 6'3" | 260 | 22 | R | Michigan St. |
| 96 | Tuitele, Maugaula | 6'2" | 255 | 23 | 1 | Colorado State |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29 | Akbar, Hakim | 6'0" | 210 | 21 | R | Washington |
| 41 | George, Tony | 5'11" | 205 | 26 | 3 | Florida |
| 23 | Harris, Antwan | 5'9" | 190 | 24 | 2 | Virginia |
| 34 | Jones, Tebucky | 6'2" | 220 | 26 | 4 | Syracuse |
| 24 | Law, Ty | 5'11" | 200 | 27 | 7 | Michigan |
| 36 | Milloy, Lawyer | 6'0" | 210 | 27 | 6 | Washington |
| 25 | Myers, Leonard | 5'10" | 190 | 22 | R | Maimi (Fla.) |
| 31 | Serwanga, Kato | 6'0" | 200 | 25 | 3 | California |
| 22 | Shaw, Terrance | 5'11" | 190 | 27 | 7 | S.F. Austin |
| 45 | Smith, Otis | 5'11" | 195 | 35 | 12 | Missouri |
| 26 | Stevens, Matt | 6'0" | 206 | 28 | 5 | Appalachian St. |
| 27 | Williams, Brock | 5'10" | 185 | 22 | R | Notre Dame |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Costello, Brad (P) | 6'1" | 230 | 26 | 1 | Boston U. |
| 10 | Johnson, Lee (P) | 6'2" | 200 | 39 | 17 | BYU |
| 2 | Pochman, Owen (K) | 5'11" | 180 | 24 | R | BYU |
| 4 | Vinatieri, Adam (K) | 6'0" | 200 | 28 | 6 | South Dakota St. |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

J.R. Redmond turned some heads last year, stealing some carries from Kevin Faulk. Now we'll see if he's ready for full-time use.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

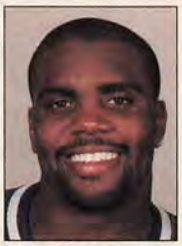
Miami visits Foxboro Dec. 22 for the stadium's finale. Gentlemen, start your bulldozers!

### KEY STAT

The Pats scored just 25 TDs in 2000—less than two a game. No wonder they went 5-11. If Bledsoe and Co. can't kick it up, the losing continues.

### GLUE GUY

Tedy Bruschi isn't the biggest linebacker at 6'1", 245, but his motor runs on desire. He has made more than 100 tackles in each of the past two seasons.



*J.R. Redmond*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Richard Seymour | DT, Georgia |
| | Big, strong and fast, he's a bull rusher who stuffs the run. | |
| 2 | Matt Light | G, Purdue |
| | Tough and strong, he'll compete for time right away. | |
| 3 | Brock Williams | CB, Notre Dame |
| | Not real big (5'10", 185), but has good speed to cover. | |
| 4 | Kenyatta Jones | G, South Florida |
| | College tackle has the size and toughness to play guard. | |
| 4 | Jabari Holloway | TE, Notre Dame |
| | A potential deep threat who needs to work on consistency. | |
| 5 | Hakim Akbar | S, Washington |
| | Tough strong safety who's best against the run. | |
| 6 | Arther Love | TE, South Carolina State |
| | Raw athlete who needs work but has time to grow. | |
| 6 | Leonard Myers | CB, Miami |
| | Solid cover man who could see some nickel action. | |
| 7 | Owen Pochman | K, BYU |
| | Strong leg, but not strong enough to replace Vinatieri. | |
| 7 | T.J. Turner | LB, Michigan State |
| | Massive (6'3", 260) run stuffer who likes trench combat. | |

**B** It's hard to say the Pats missed the boat with Seymour. He's an impact hole plugger who can be inserted into the D-line immediately. But New England's offense labored last year, and Bledsoe didn't get any new weapons in this draft. Williams is a nickel corner for now; Akbar was a steal in the fifth round and may develop faster than Williams.

son, but all he got was an unsettled mess. The only constant on the line is center Damien Woody, a '99 Patriots draft pick who has become the rough, physical pivot they envisioned.

After that it's a free for all. Former Lion Mike Compton was signed to start at one of the guard slots, and he's sound enough to make it happen. At the other guard, former Buffalo Bill Joe Panos will try to hold off Sale Isaia and Joe Andruzzi, both of whom started for stints last year. Impressive camps could also vault draftees Kenyatta Jones and Matt Light into the mix, so long as their positions aren't switched.

The tackle spot is equally muddled, with Greg Robinson-Randall and Grant Williams the favorites to claim starting jobs.

### Defensive Line

There is a huge hole in the middle of Belichick's line, thanks to Chad Eaton's free-agent defection and the decision not to re-sign Henry Thomas. The Pats are confident jumbo tackle Richard Seymour, their No. 1 draft pick, can play right away. He has the speed of an end but the frame (6'6", 300) to handle trench life. Reggie Grimes, Garrett Johnson and Brandon Mitchell also will try to prove they belong in the lineup.

The outside is in good shape, thanks to the returns of Bobby Hamilton and Willie McGinest, the continued emergence of speed rusher Greg Spires and the arrival of Anthony Pleasant from San Francisco. None of these guys conjure images of Jevon Kearse, but the ends are less of a liability than the tackles.

*Kevin Faulk*

**Linebackers** Belichick has seen some great linebacker corps in his day, and his current unit—if healthy—ranks right up there. Sure, there's no LT in this bunch, but Tedy Bruschi, Ted Johnson and Andy Katzenmoyer know how to shut down a running game. Katzenmoyer, though, started only three times in 2000 and spent half the year hurt. That wasn't a big problem with Chris Slade around, but he was released, so the Pats need the Big Kat on the prowl each week more than ever.

There should be more playing opportunities for free-agent acquisitions Mike Vrabel, a good pass rusher, and Larry Izzo, a special teams ace who's looking to branch out.

**Defensive Backs** When the Pats signed Antonio Langham, they hoped he would become a sure-fire cover man opposite Ty Law. Langham, though, floundered in New England, and a year after he signed he got the boot. Now the Pats will try Otis Smith, Terrance Shaw, Antwan Harris and even third-round draft pick Brock Williams.

If that corner is the secondary's weak spot, the safeties are its strength. Lawyer Milloy is a stud at strong safety—one of the league's best. The free safety spot should belong to Tebucky Jones, who came on last year. Also keep an eye on Hakim Akbar, an All-Pac-10 player from Washington who can really drill a receiver.

### Special Teams

Adam Vinatieri doesn't have an atomic leg, but he's become increasingly consistent. He made 7 of 8 from 40-49 yards, has hit four 50-yarders the last three years, and knows how to handle cold weather. Booming BYU booter Owen Pochman may be used for kickoffs. Lee Johnson is 39, but he still put 31 punts inside opponents' 20-yard line last season.

Brown is a dangerous punt returner who can only get better. If he isn't needed to carry the rushing load, Faulk can split kick return chores with Patten and others.

**Management** Belichick stepped into a difficult situation and is still getting his house in order. Veterans and their hefty contracts are being nudged out, opening up competition among young players at more spots. That's a good first step, but the Pats' ultimate success depends on importing more playmakers for Bledsoe while turning the defense into a reliable rock. Until then, Belichick can only expect maximum effort from his players, at least ones who want to see the opening of CMGI Field.

*—Michael Bradley*

NFL (REDMOND); JONATHAN DANIEL/ALLSPORT

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# Baltimore RAVENS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | Grbac should resuscitate the vertical game. | 7 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | Lewis' teammates love to watch him rumble. | 8 |
| **RECEIVERS:** | Ravens need Taylor to become the go-to guy. | 6 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | Ogden and Searcy make a smashing pair. | 7 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | Injuries aside, it's still the best in football. | 10 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | If Boulware bounces back, look out. | 8.5 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | Starks played big late in the season. | 8 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | Jermaine Lewis is dynamic; Stover is automatic. | 8 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | Ozzie Newsome assembled this juggernaut. | 9 |
| **OVERALL:** | They have made all the right moves. | 8 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**1st in AFC Central**

## RAVENS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Brian Billick (24-12 with Baltimore)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Elvis Grbac (KC) | 326-547, 4,169 yds, 28 TDs |
| RB | Jamal Lewis | 309 car, 1,364 yds, 6 TDs |
| FB | Sam Gash | 2 car, 2 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Shannon Sharpe | 67 rec, 810 yds, 5 TDs |
| WR | Travis Taylor | 28 rec, 276 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | Qadry Ismail | 49 rec, 655 yds, 5 TDs |
| LT | Jonathan Ogden | 15 games, 15 starts |
| LG | Edwin Mulitalo | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Mike Flynn | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Kipp Vickers | 11 games, 2 starts |
| RT | Leon Searcy (JAX) | DNP-INJURED |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Rob Burnett | 49 tackles, 10.5 sacks |
| DT | Sam Adams | 27 tackles, 2 sacks |
| DT | Tony Siragusa | 27 tackles, 0 sacks |
| DE | Michael McCrary | 44 tackles, 6.5 sacks |
| LB | Peter Boulware | 39 tackles, 7 sacks |
| LB | Ray Lewis | 137 tackles, 3 sacks |
| LB | Jamie Sharper | 72 tackles, 1 INT |
| CB | Duane Starks | 49 tackles, 6 INTs |
| CB | Chris McAlister | 40 tackles, 4 INTs |
| SS | Corey Harris | 34 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Rod Woodson | 77 tackles, 4 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Matt Stover | 30-30 XPs, 35-39 FGs |
| P | Kyle Richardson | 86 punts, 40.2 avg |
| KR | Jermaine Lewis | 1 KR, 23.0 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Jermaine Lewis | 36 PR, 16.1 avg, 2 TDs |

New acquisitions in Blue

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Matt Cavanaugh, offensive coordinator/QBs; Jim Colletto, OL; Jack Del Rio, LBs; Jeff Friday, strength and conditioning; Wade Harmon, TEs/OL; Donnie Henderson, DBs; Milt Jackson, off. asst.; Marvin Lewis, defensive coordinator; Mike Nolan, WRs; Russ Purnell, special teams; Rex Ryan, DL; Steve Shafer, DBs; Mike Simon, RBs; Mike Smith, def. asst.

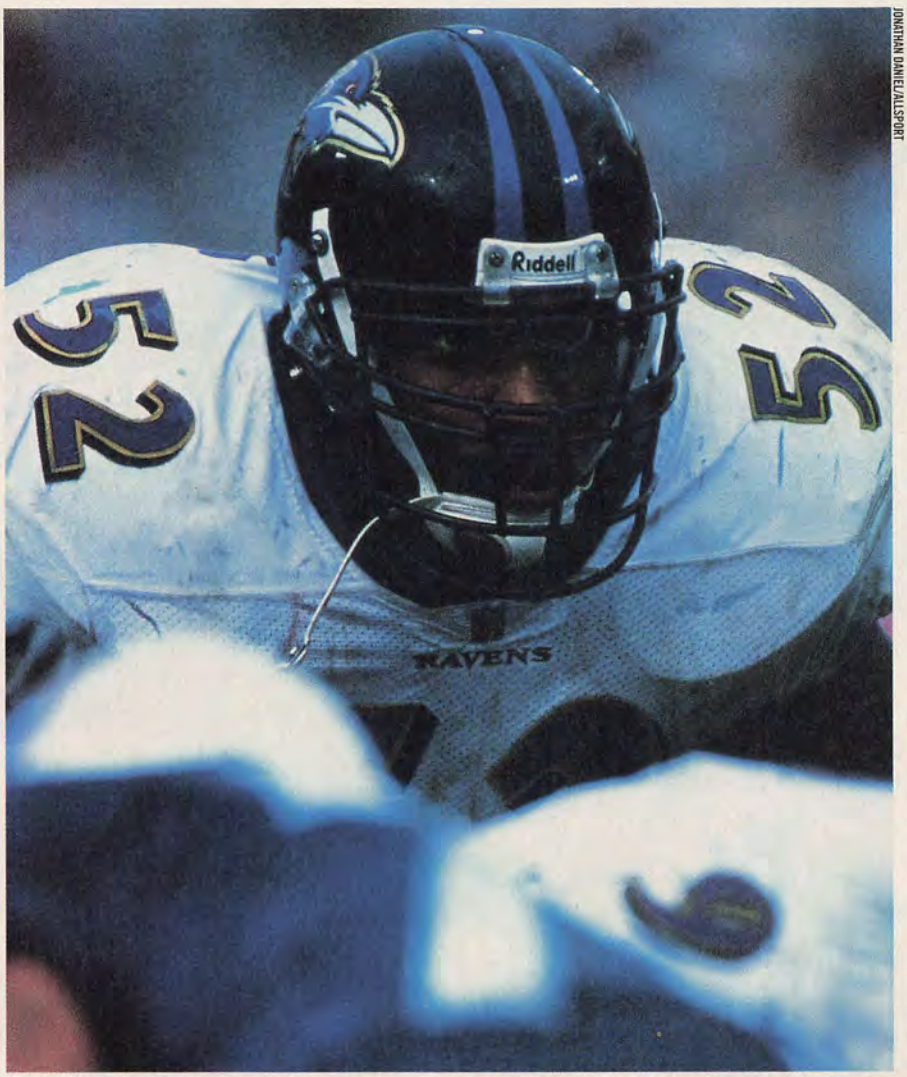
# Elvis is in the building, so offense ready to rock

By Ken Murray

Their star middle linebacker spent most of last off-season either in jail or a courtroom. Their offense didn't score a touchdown in October. They made a quarterback change at midseason. And still the Ravens wound up not only winning the Super Bowl, but winning it handily, with a 34-7 rout of the New York Giants.

Could a more unlikely scenario have been written before the season? It's hard to imagine one. The Ravens had a steely determination that was hard to miss, and it quickly became evident in the aftermath of Ray Lewis' murder trial. He was the soul of a dominant defense that set league records for fewest points and rushing yards allowed in a 16-game season.

There was also a sense of destiny. Trent Dilfer, the quarterback the Tampa Bay Bucs didn't want, became the Ravens' starter in Week 9 and helped take the team to Super Bowl XXXV—at his old stomping grounds in Tampa. Again, hard to imagine.




JONATHAN DANIEL/ALLSPORT

*Middle linebacker Lewis will set the tone again for the Ravens' record-setting defense.*

**Quarterbacks** Dilfer went 11-1 after replacing Tony Banks at midseason, but just as in Tampa Bay, his primary function was to avoid the killer mistake. In the off-season, Dilfer became the first quarterback ever to win the Super Bowl and then be shoved out the door before throwing another pass.

The new gun in Baltimore is Elvis Grbac, who threw for more than 4,000 yards and 28 touchdowns for Kansas City in 2000, but produced just seven wins. What Grbac gives the Ravens is improved accuracy and a deep touch. He will reinvigorate Brian Billick's vertical game. But there are questions about his leadership ability and his penchant for making the big mistake.

Missing out on Brad Johnson, the Ravens gave Grbac a five-year, $30 million contract. They can cut their losses at $5.5 million after one year if they decide he's not their guy, though. Next in line is second-year man Chris Redman, the ex-Louisville hotshot. Billick was expected to bring in Randall Cunningham as insurance.

**Running Backs** Jamal Lewis was a savior for Baltimore as a surprise fifth pick in the draft last year. He gave the Ravens a bruising physical profile on offense and a punishing ground game. Lewis ran for 1,702 yards, including the postseason, and had six 100-yard games, one in the Super Bowl. Fast for a big man, he also can play in the passing game. The Ravens had a nice one-two punch with Lewis and Priest Holmes, but Holmes went to Kansas City via free agency and will not be easy to replace. Don't expect Sam Gash to carry more—he'll stick with clearing lanes for Lewis.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The Ravens had a group of speedy outside receivers last year, but the leading pass catcher was tight end Shannon Sharpe, who turned a series of short passes into a highlight reel of big plays. He's the go-to guy in Billick's offense. The Ravens landed Todd Heap in the draft to groom as Sharpe's eventual successor.

With Grbac, Billick hopes to revive the deep ball. His best deep threat should be promising wideout Travis Taylor, whose rookie season was shortened to nine games due to a broken collarbone. Taylor showed flashes, but was inconsistent.

Qadry Ismail, Brandon Stokley and Patrick Johnson bring speed and big-play potential. Stokley came on late—you'll recall him torching Giants corner Jason Sehorn in the Super Bowl.

**Offensive Line** Although the Ravens lost center Jeff Mitchell in free agency,

## 2001 SCHEDULE
**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | CHICAGO | 1 p.m. |
| Sept. 17 | MINNESOTA | 9 p.m. |
| Sept. 23 | at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| Sept. 30 | at Denver | 4:15 p.m. |
| Oct. 7 | TENNESSEE | 1 p.m. |
| Oct. 14 | at Green Bay | 1 p.m. |
| Oct. 21 | at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Oct. 28 | JACKSONVILLE | 1 p.m. |
| Nov. 4 | at Pittsburgh | 1 p.m. |
| Nov. 12 | at Tennessee | 9 p.m. |
| Nov. 18 | CLEVELAND | 1 p.m. |
| Nov. 25 | at Jacksonville | 1 p.m. |
| Dec. 2 | INDIANAPOLIS | 1 p.m. |
| Dec. 9 | Open Date | |
| Dec. 16 | PITTSBURGH | 8:30 p.m. |
| Dec. 23 | CINCINNATI | 1 p.m. |
| Dec. 29 | at Tampa Bay | 9 p.m |

PSINET STADIUM (69,084)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
**12-4, 2nd in AFC CENTRAL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Pittsburgh | W, 16-0 |
| Sept. 10 | JACKSONVILLE | W, 39-36 |
| Sept. 17 | at Miami | L, 6-19 |
| Sept. 24 | CINCINNATI | W, 37-0 |
| Oct. 1 | at Cleveland | W, 12-0 |
| Oct. 8 | at Jacksonville | W, 15-10 |
| Oct. 15 | at Washington | L, 3-10 |
| Oct. 22 | TENNESSEE | L, 6-14 |
| Oct. 29 | PITTSBURGH | L, 6-9 |
| Nov. 5 | at Cincinnati | W, 27-7 |
| Nov. 12 | at Tennessee | W, 24-23 |
| Nov. 19 | DALLAS | W, 27-0 |
| Nov. 26 | CLEVELAND | W, 44-7 |
| Dec. 10 | SAN DIEGO | W, 24-3 |
| Dec. 17 | at Arizona | W, 13-7 |
| Dec. 24 | NEW YORK JETS | W, 34-20 |
| Dec. 31 | DENVER* | W, 21-3 |
| Jan. 7 | at Tennessee# | W, 24-10 |
| Jan. 14 | at Oakland§ | W, 16-3 |
| Jan. 28 | New York Giants‡ | W, 34-7 |

* AFC Wild Card, # AFC Divisional Playoff, § AFC Championship, ‡Super Bowl XXXV

## 2000 RAVENS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 313.4 (16) | 137.4 (5) | 175.9 (22) | 20.8 (14) | 9 (24t) | 20 (15t) | 4.3 (7t) | 10.8 (24t) | 43 (19t) | 288 (18) | 40.3 (11) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 247.9 (2) | 60.6 (1) | 187.3 (8) | 10.3 (1) | 5 (1) | 11 (2t) | 2.7 (1) | 10.8 (5t) | 35 (22) | 23 (5) | 23 (1) |

## 2001 RAVENS PRESEASON ROSTER

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **QUARTERBACKS** | | | | | |
| 18 | Grbac, Elvis | 6'5" | 238 | 31 | 9 | Michigan |
| 9 | Jenkins, Ortege | 6'1" | 227 | 23 | R | Arizona |
| 7 | Redman, Chris | 6'3" | 223 | 24 | 2 | Louisville |
| | **RUNNING BACKS** | | | | | |
| 30 | Ayanbadejo, Obafemi (FB) | 6'2" | 235 | 26 | 4 | San Diego St. |
| 34 | Barnes, Chris | 6'0" | 210 | 23 | R | New Mexico St. |
| 44 | Brookins, Jason | 6'0" | 235 | 25 | 1 | Lane College |
| 32 | Gash, Sam (FB) | 6'0" | 240 | 32 | 10 | Penn State |
| 23 | Homer, Derek | 5'11" | 198 | 23 | R | Kentucky |
| 46 | Kerneck, Aaron | 6'2" | 225 | 22 | R | Austin College |
| 31 | Lewis, Jamal | 5'11" | 231 | 22 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 39 | Ricard, Alan (FB) | 5'11" | 237 | 24 | 1 | NE Louisiana |
| | **RECEIVERS** | | | | | |
| 86 | Heap, Todd (TE) | 6'5" | 252 | 21 | R | Arizona State |
| 15 | Horsey, Albert | 6'0" | 187 | 22 | R | Delaware State |
| 87 | Ismail, Qadry | 6'0" | 200 | 30 | 9 | Syracuse |
| 83 | Johnson, Patrick | 5'10" | 180 | 25 | 4 | Oregon |
| 85 | Jones, John (TE) | 6'4" | 255 | 26 | 2 | Indiana (PA) |
| 49 | Kendall, Billy (TE) | 6'5" | 237 | 23 | R | Memphis |
| 84 | Lewis, Jermaine | 5'7" | 180 | 26 | 6 | Maryland |
| 82 | Sharpe, Shannon (TE) | 6'2" | 232 | 33 | 12 | Savannah St. |
| 80 | Stokley, Brandon | 5'11" | 197 | 25 | 3 | La.-Lafayette |
| 89 | Taylor, Travis | 6'1" | 200 | 23 | 2 | Florida |
| 16 | Thompson, Germany | 6'2" | 208 | 25 | 2 | New Mexico |
| | **OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 62 | Flynn, Mike (G) | 6'3" | 300 | 27 | 4 | Maine |
| 65 | Jones, Jim (G) | 6'2" | 314 | 23 | R | Notre Dame |
| 67 | Lambo, Anthony (G) | 6'2" | 291 | 23 | R | Virginia Tech |
| 59 | Maese, Joe (LS) | 6'0" | 241 | 22 | R | New Mexico |
| 64 | Mulitalo, Edwin (G) | 6'3" | 340 | 27 | 3 | Arizona |
| 75 | Ogden, Jonathan (T) | 6'8" | 340 | 27 | 6 | UCLA |
| 71 | Pruce, Dave (T) | 6'8" | 295 | 23 | R | SUNY-Buffalo |
| 61 | Rabach, Casey (C) | 6'4" | 301 | 23 | R | Wisconsin |
| 72 | Searcy, Leon (T) | 6'4" | 320 | 31 | 9 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 70 | Swayne, Harry (T) | 6'5" | 300 | 36 | 15 | Rutgers |
| 77 | Vickers, Kipp (G) | 6'2" | 300 | 32 | 7 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 78 | Williams, Sammy (T) | 6'5" | 318 | 26 | 4 | Oklahoma |
| | **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 95 | Adams, Sam (T) | 6'3" | 330 | 28 | 8 | Texas A&M |
| 93 | Bland, Mike (T) | 6'3" | 298 | 23 | R | Hampton |
| 90 | Burnett, Rob (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 34 | 12 | Syracuse |
| 63 | Callens, Corey (E) | 6'2" | 253 | 23 | R | Oklahoma |
| 60 | Cook, Damion (T) | 6'5" | 316 | 22 | R | Bethune-Cookman |
| 91 | Dalton, Lional (T) | 6'1" | 309 | 26 | 4 | E. Michigan |
| 94 | Fisher, Ryan (T) | 6'1" | 295 | 24 | R | Oklahoma |
| 73 | Gregg, Kelly (T) | 6'0" | 285 | 24 | 3 | Oklahoma |
| 99 | McCrary, Michael (E) | 6'4" | 260 | 31 | 9 | Wake Forest |
| 97 | Missouri, Dwayne (E) | 6'5" | 260 | 22 | R | Northwestern |
| 98 | Siragusa, Tony (T) | 6'3" | 340 | 34 | 12 | Pittsburgh |
| 96 | Thomas, Adalius (E) | 6'2" | 270 | 24 | 2 | Southern Miss |
| 79 | Webster, Larry (T) | 6'5" | 288 | 32 | 10 | Maryland |
| 92 | Wilson, Adrian (T) | 6'2" | 315 | 22 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| | **LINEBACKERS** | | | | | |
| 53 | Ayanbadejo, Brendon | 6'0" | 233 | 24 | 1 | UCLA |
| 58 | Boulware, Peter | 6'4" | 255 | 26 | 5 | Florida State |
| 56 | Hartwell, Edgerton | 6'1" | 250 | 23 | R | Western Illinois |
| 50 | Jackson, Brad | 6'0" | 230 | 26 | 3 | Cincinnati |
| 47 | Jackson, Kenny | 6'2" | 253 | 24 | R | Nevada-Reno |
| 48 | Johnson, Tim | 6'2" | 219 | 23 | R | Youngstown St. |
| 52 | Lewis, Ray | 6'1" | 245 | 26 | 6 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 55 | Sharper, Jamie | 6'3" | 240 | 26 | 5 | Virginia |
| 54 | Wilkinson, Calvin | 6'3" | 230 | 24 | 2 | Temple |
| | **DEFENSIVE BACKS** | | | | | |
| 28 | Baxter, Gary | 6'2" | 204 | 22 | R | Baylor |
| 35 | Destefano, Pete | 6'1" | 215 | 25 | 1 | California |
| 45 | Harris, Corey | 5'11" | 200 | 31 | 10 | Vanderbilt |
| 20 | Holland, Richard | 5'10" | 172 | 23 | R | VMI |
| 27 | Howell, Evan | 5'11" | 183 | 23 | 1 | Oklahoma St. |
| 33 | Hughley, Delvin | 5'10" | 202 | 23 | R | Jacksonville St. |
| 25 | Love, Clarence | 5'10" | 181 | 25 | 3 | Toledo |
| 21 | McAlister, Chris | 6'1" | 206 | 24 | 3 | Arizona |
| 42 | Mitchell, Anthony | 6'1" | 211 | 26 | 2 | Tuskegee |
| 43 | Poindexter, Anthony | 6'0" | 220 | 25 | 3 | Virginia |
| 24 | Porter, Alvin | 5'11" | 175 | 24 | R | Oklahoma St. |
| 22 | Starks, Duane | 5'10" | 170 | 27 | 4 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 13 | Swain, Damian | 6'1" | 175 | 24 | R | Alabama St. |
| 38 | Trapp, James | 6'0" | 190 | 31 | 9 | Clemson |
| 37 | Waddell, Reggie | 6'0" | 185 | 23 | R | Western Illinois |
| 26 | Woodson, Rod | 6'0" | 205 | 36 | 15 | Purdue |
| | **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| 5 | Richardson, Kyle (P) | 6'2" | 210 | 28 | 5 | Arkansas State |
| 3 | Stover, Matt (K) | 5'11" | 178 | 33 | 12 | Louisiana Tech |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

The emergence of second-year wideout Travis Taylor as a major threat should coincide with the arrival of veteran QB Elvis Grbac. Taylor showed flashes in an injury-shortened rookie year.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

CB Chris McAlister goes toe-to-toe with Randy Moss, and Brian Billick shows his wares to former boss Dennis Green on Monday, Sept. 17.

### KEY STAT

Tony Banks and Trent Dilfer combined to complete 36 passes of 20 yards or longer last season. Grbac hit 55 throws of 20-plus for the Chiefs.

### GLUE GUY

Middle linebacker Ray Lewis remains the inspiration behind the Ravens' record-setting defense.

***Travis Taylor***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Todd Heap** TE, Arizona State
His athleticism makes him perfect understudy to Sharpe.

2 **Gary Baxter** CB, Baylor
Physical cover man; could find role in nickel and dime sets.

3 **Casey Rabach** C, Wisconsin
Good drive-blocker who gives Ravens depth in interior line.

4 **Edgerton Hartwell** LB, Western Illinois
Aggressive tackler headed for special teams, backup MLB.

5 **Chris Barnes** RB, New Mexico State
Power runner with little experience in the passing game.

6 **Joe Maese** C, New Mexico
Long snapper exclusively for the Lobos.

7 **Dwayne Missouri** DE, Northwestern
Project pick with big wingspan and some pass-rush ability.

A The Ravens didn't get any starters out of this draft, but they didn't need any. They went for prospects who will develop down the line, starting with Heap in the first round. He will get a lot of time in Brian Billick's trademark two-tight-end sets, and he'll learn all the insider tricks from Shannon Sharpe. Rabach, who played some guard at Wisconsin, gives Baltimore options on the offensive line and a possible challenger for one of the starting guard slots. Baxter is in line to be the third corner and a special-teamer for at least one season. Hartwell will study Ray Lewis' technique—not a bad model. The Ravens even drafted a long snapper in the sixth round.

they made up for it by signing right tackle Leon Searcy. With All-Pro left tackle Jonathan Ogden, few pass rushers will sneak up on Grbac. Searcy, who missed all of last season with a quadriceps injury, was cut in Jacksonville's salary-cap purge. Replacing Mitchell will be right guard Mike Flynn, whose 16 starts included two at center last season. The hole in the line is at Flynn's old spot, where journeyman Kipp Vickers is likely to get a shot. Left guard Edwin Mulitalo is young and still learning.

**Defensive Line** With 350-pound Tony Siragusa and 330-pound Sam Adams at the tackles, the Ravens were impossible to run against. All that meat is back. The Ravens again plan on matching that size with quickness at the ends in tireless Michael McCrary and cagey veteran Rob Burnett. McCrary has sacrificed numbers in his pass-rush game to help the Ravens contain the run. Burnett posted a career-high 10½ sacks. Tackles Lional Dalton and Larry Webster give the Ravens a four-man rotation inside that will again be key to keeping the big men fresh all year.

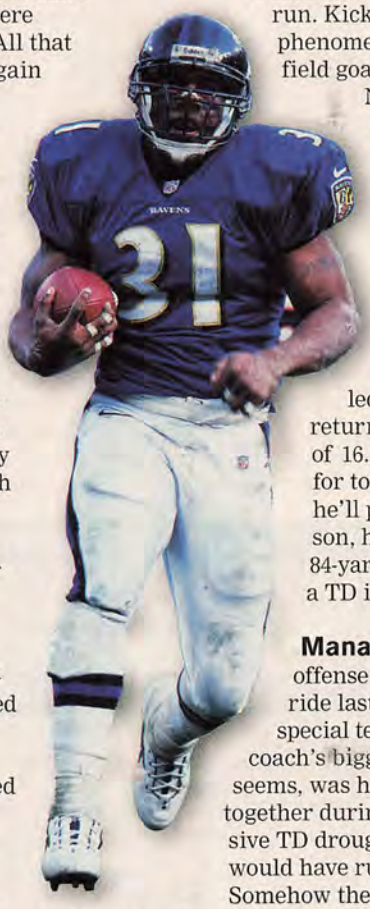
**Linebackers** Middle linebacker Ray Lewis had his finest season after he was acquitted in a high-profile murder trial during the offseason. In a defense designed to take advantage of his quickness and sideline-to-sideline range, Lewis earned league defensive player of the year honors. The two big tackles in front keep blockers off him so he can clean up.

The Ravens were able to retain unrestricted free agent Jamie Sharper. He had his best season, too, and it got even better in the playoffs. The Ravens hope to get more consistency out of Peter Boulware at the other outside spot. After undergoing shoulder surgery in each of his previous two seasons, Boulware had to learn to use his right arm again. He struggled early, but finished with a rush.

**Defensive Backs** With matching No. 1 draft choices at cornerback, Baltimore had 23 interceptions. After getting burned for a handful of big plays early in the season, Duane Starks made steady progress and finished with six picks. His counterpart, Chris McAlister, saw fewer passes, but had four interceptions, and safety Rod Woodson had four more. The ability of McAlister and Starks to excel in man-to-man coverages enables the Ravens to do more up front. The team lost strong safety Kim Herring to St. Louis, but has a capable replacement in Corey Harris. Nickel back James Trapp also returns.

**Special Teams** Erratic in the first half of the season, the Ravens' special teams excelled in the playoff run. Kicker Matt Stover was phenomenal, hitting 35 of 39 field goal tries to lead the NFL in scoring with 135 points. Kyle Richardson led the league by dropping 35 punts inside the opponents' 20.

Jermaine Lewis was vital in setting up good field position as well. He led the league in punt returns with an average of 16.1 yards, taking two for touchdowns. In a role he'll probably fill this season, he also had a crucial 84-yard kickoff return for a TD in the Super Bowl.



***Jamal Lewis***

**Management** Billick's offense went along for the ride last year as defense and special teams dominated. The coach's biggest contribution, it seems, was holding the team together during a five-game offensive TD drought in October that would have ruined most teams. Somehow the Ravens won three of those games and never cracked.

Ozzie Newsome, the VP of player personnel, has assembled most of the talent for the dynamic defense, either through the draft or shrewd free-agent acquisitions. He hit the jackpot with the inspired selection of Jamal Lewis in last year's draft. Then there was the influence of new minority owner Stephen J. Bisciotti, whose infusion of money set the stage for the Super Bowl run. Bisciotti is expected to take control of the team from Art Modell after three more seasons.

*Ken Murray covers the NFL for the* Baltimore Sun.

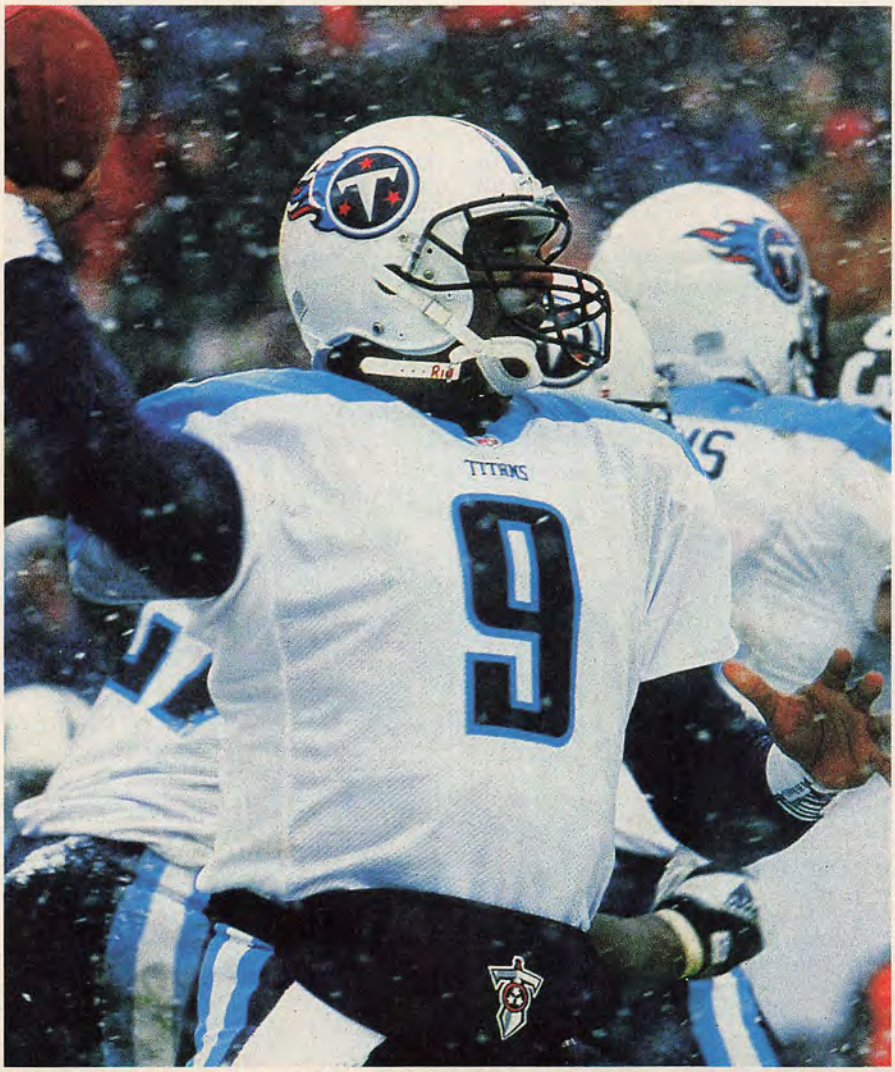
NFL (TAYLOR); ROB BROWN/SPORTPICS

# Not-so-special teams revamped for title run

It was a story of what might have been for the Titans in 2000. After making a Super Bowl run as a wild-card team in 1999, they earned home-field advantage and the top seed in the AFC last season. Then they lost at home to the Ravens for the second time in three months on a series of ghastly special teams misadventures.

Clearly, general manager Floyd Reese and coach Jeff Fisher have built a playoff team with staying power and one of the best defenses in football. Since 1995, the Titans are 28-20 on the road. At Adelphia Stadium, they are 16-2 the last two years. Both of those losses have come at the hands of AFC Central rival Baltimore. To repeat as division champs, Tennessee will have to beat the Ravens at their own game.

**Quarterbacks** The Titans had a scare early in the off-season when quarterback Steve McNair had an infection in his throwing shoulder that was deemed potentially career-ending. A surgical procedure and antibiotics treatment ultimately restored McNair's



JAMIE SQUIRE/ALLSPORT

***McNair played through several injuries in 2000, then had an off-season infection scare.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

**QUARTERBACKS: 6.5**
McNair's shoulder woes are a concern.

**RUNNING BACKS: 9**
The offense will lean on George again and again.

**RECEIVERS: 6**
Getting Dyson back will be vital.

**OFFENSIVE LINE: 7.5**
Stout unit was almost injury free in 2000.

**DEFENSIVE LINE: 9**
Carter and Kearse are O-line nightmares.

**LINEBACKERS: 7**
Favors has to hold off Bulluck on the left side.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS: 7**
Denard Walker will be hard to replace.

**SPECIAL TEAMS: 9**
Nedney has to avoid Al Del Greco's fate.

**MANAGEMENT: 8**
Recovered nicely from loss of Kenny Holmes.

**OVERALL: 7.5**
The Titans should push the Ravens.

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**2nd in AFC Central**

## TITANS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Jeff Fisher (61-46 with Tennessee)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Steve McNair | 248-396, 2,847 yds, 15 TDs |
| RB | Eddie George | 403 car, 1,509 yds, 14 TDs |
| TE | Frank Wycheck | 70 rec, 636 yds, 14 TDs |
| TE | Erron Kinney | 19 rec, 197 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | Derrick Mason | 63 rec, 895 yds, 5 TDs |
| WR | Kevin Dyson | 6 rec, 104 yds, 1 TD |
| LT | Brad Hopkins | 15 games, 15 starts |
| LG | Bruce Matthews | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Kevin Long | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Benji Olson | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Fred Miller | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Kevin Carter (STL) | 35 tackles, 10.5 sacks |
| DT | Josh Evans | DNP-SUSPENDED |
| DT | Jason Fisk | 40 tackles, 2 sacks |
| DE | Jevon Kearse | 53 tackles, 11.5 sacks |
| LB | Greg Favors | 37 tackles, 6 sacks |
| LB | Randall Godfrey | 121 tackles, 3 sacks |
| LB | Eddie Robinson | 60 tackles, 4 sacks |
| CB | Dainon Sidney | 19 tackles, 3 INTs |
| CB | Samari Rolle | 39 tackles, 7 INTs |
| SS | Blaine Bishop | 84 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| FS | Bobby Myers | 8 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Joe Nedney (CAR) | 24-24 XPs, 34-38 FGs |
| P | Craig Hentrich | 76 punts, 40.8 avg |
| KR | Chris Coleman | 2 KR, 27.0 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Derrick Mason | 51 PR, 13.0 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in **Blue**

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Gunther Cunningham, LBs; Mike Heimerdinger, offensive coordinator; George Henshaw, asst. head coach; Craig Johnson, off. asst.; Alan Lowry, special teams; Mike Munchak, OL; Jim Schwartz, defensive coordinator; Sherman Smith, RBs; Steve Walters, WRs; Jim Washburn, DL; Steve Watterson, strength and conditioning; Everett Withers, DBs

health—he was ready to go at the beginning of summer.

The scare came after McNair endured and overcame injuries in his fourth NFL season. He suffered injuries to his sternum, knee, ankle and left shoulder, but missed only one start. McNair finished with a career-high completion percentage of 62.6 and matched career highs in touchdown passes (15) despite an ever-changing receiving corps.

Backup Neil O'Donnell made one start, in Week 4, against Pittsburgh, a game that McNair won in relief. O'Donnell also replaced an injured McNair in Week 2 and pulled out an overtime victory against Kansas City. He's 5-1 as a starter subbing for McNair the last two seasons, a handy insurance policy on a playoff team.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | MIAMI | 8:30 |
| Sept. 16 | CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Jacksonville | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 7 | at Baltimore | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Detroit | 1:00 |
| Oct. 29 | at Pittsburgh | 9:00 |
| Nov. 4 | JACKSONVILLE | 1:00 |
| Nov. 12 | BALTIMORE | 9:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at Cincinnati | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | at Cleveland | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at Minnesota | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | GREEN BAY | 4:15 |
| Dec. 22 | at Oakland | 9:00 |
| Dec. 30 | CLEVELAND | 1:00 |

ADELPHIA COLISEUM (67,000)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

**13-3, 1st in AFC CENTRAL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Buffalo | L, 13-16 |
| Sept. 10 | KANSAS CITY | W, 17-14 |
| Sept. 24 | at Pittsburgh | W, 23-20 |
| Oct. 1 | NEW YORK GIANTS | W, 28-14 |
| Oct. 8 | at Cincinnati | W, 23-14 |
| Oct. 16 | JACKSONVILLE | W, 27-13 |
| Oct. 22 | at Baltimore | W, 14-6 |
| Oct. 30 | at Washington | W, 27-21 |
| Nov. 5 | PITTSBURGH | W, 9-7 |
| Nov. 12 | BALTIMORE | L, 23-24 |
| Nov. 19 | CLEVELAND | W, 24-10 |
| Nov. 26 | at Jacksonville | L, 13-16 |
| Dec. 3 | at Philadelphia | W, 15-13 |
| Dec. 10 | CINCINNATI | W, 35-3 |
| Dec. 17 | at Cleveland | W, 24-0 |
| Dec. 25 | DALLAS | W, 31-0 |
| Jan. 7 | BALTIMORE# | L, 10-24 |

# AFC Divisional Playoff

**Running Backs** The Titans had hoped to lighten the load on running back Eddie George, but he became even more of a one-man gang. His 403 carries easily surpassed his previous career high of 357. His 14 rushing touchdowns were five more than his previous high. Since the Titans drafted George in the first round in 1996, he has been a model of efficiency. He joined Hall of Famer Eric Dickerson as the only backs to rush for 1,200 yards in each of their first five seasons. Since 1997, George has rushed for a league-best 5,506 yards with 33 touchdowns.

Last season, he extended his streak of consecutive starts to 80, playing through injuries. But in February, George had surgery for a torn tendon in his big toe, and he wasn't expected to practice until late July or early August. When he does return, he'll go without departed blocking back Lorenzo Neal, a free-agency departure.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** In the face of injuries to Yancey Thigpen and Carl Pickens, the Titans found burgeoning new stars in their receiver corps. Derrick Mason blossomed into a Pro Bowl performer—his 63 catches helped him set the NFL's single-season all-purpose yardage record (2,690). Chris Sanders established himself as a deep threat, catching five passes of 35 yards or longer.

Both Thigpen and Pickens were released in salary-cap related moves, so the Titans really need Kevin Dyson to return from a severe knee injury suffered in practice last September. The Titans will try to ease Dyson back into the lineup—coach Jeff Fisher says he anticipates using Dyson only 10 to 15 plays per game early in the season. Even that might be ambitious, given the extent of Dyson's injury, which included a torn ACL and MCL.

Returning are tight ends Frank Wycheck, who led the team in receptions for the fifth consecutive year with 70, and the improving Erron Kinney.

**Offensive Line** It was fitting on a line featuring iron man Bruce Matthews that only one starter missed a game in

## 2000 TITANS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 334.4 (14) | 130.3 (7) | 204.1 (16) | 21.6 (13) | 14 (12t) | 18 (19t) | 3.8 (22t) | 12.0 (9t) | 28 (4t) | 299 (16) | 42.5 (8) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 238.3 (1) | 86.9 (3) | 151.4 (1) | 11.9 (2) | 7 (2t) | 10 (1) | 3.6 (5) | 11.4 (15t) | 55 (2t) | 17 (13t) | 0 (16t) |

## 2001 TITANS PRESEASON ROSTER

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **QUARTERBACKS** | | | | | |
| 9 | McNair, Steve | 6'2" | 225 | 28 | 7 | Alcorn State |
| 14 | O'Donnell, Neil | 6'3" | 228 | 35 | 12 | Maryland |
| 8 | Sanders, Chris | 6'1" | 215 | 23 | R | UT-Chattanooga |
| 12 | Volek, Billy | 6'2" | 210 | 25 | 2 | Fresno State |
| | **RUNNING BACKS** | | | | | |
| 36 | Alexander, Dan (FB) | 6'0" | 244 | 23 | R | Nebraska |
| 42 | Bartholomew, Rashad | 6'0" | 215 | 23 | R | Yale |
| 44 | Chukwuma, Chrys | 6'0" | 232 | 23 | 1 | Arkansas |
| 27 | George, Eddie | 6'3" | 240 | 27 | 6 | Ohio State |
| 20 | Green, Mike (FB) | 6'0" | 249 | 24 | 2 | Houston |
| | **RECEIVERS** | | | | | |
| 19 | Bennett, Andrew | 6'5" | 203 | 23 | R | UCLA |
| 82 | Berlin, Eddie | 5'11" | 186 | 23 | R | Northern Iowa |
| 17 | Coleman, Chris | 6'0" | 202 | 24 | 2 | N.C. State |
| 87 | Dyson, Kevin | 6'1" | 201 | 26 | 4 | Utah |
| 11 | Hinshaw, Tyson | 6'0" | 181 | 24 | R | Central Florida |
| 88 | Kinney, Erron (TE) | 6'5" | 272 | 24 | 2 | Florida |
| 83 | Leach, Mike (TE) | 6'4" | 238 | 24 | 2 | William & Mary |
| 85 | Mason, Derrick | 5'10" | 188 | 27 | 5 | Michigan State |
| 86 | McCareins, Justin | 6'2" | 200 | 22 | R | Northern Illinois |
| 84 | Meier, Shad (TE) | 6'4" | 250 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 16 | Neal, Steve | 6'1" | 188 | 24 | R | Western Mich. |
| 18 | Redmond, Jimmy | 6'0" | 188 | 24 | R | McNeese State |
| 81 | Sanders, Chris | 6'1" | 188 | 29 | 7 | Ohio State |
| 45 | Snelling, Robby (TE) | 6'2" | 252 | 23 | R | Boise State |
| 13 | Snowden, Michael | 6'3" | 212 | 23 | R | Arkansas |
| 17 | Tucker, Marshaun | 5'10" | 184 | 21 | R | Oregon |
| 89 | Wycheck, Frank (TE) | 6'3" | 250 | 29 | 9 | Maryland |
| | **OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 52 | Diehl, Reed (G) | 6'4" | 300 | 22 | R | California |
| 66 | DiNapoli, Gennaro (G) | 6'3" | 295 | 26 | 4 | Virginia Tech |
| 70 | Haayer, Adam (T) | 6'6" | 305 | 24 | R | Minnesota |
| 61 | Hall, Adam (T) | 6'6" | 315 | 23 | R | Mid. Tenn. St. |
| 72 | Hopkins, Brad (T) | 6'3" | 305 | 30 | 9 | Illinois |
| 60 | Long, Kevin (C) | 6'5" | 295 | 26 | 4 | Florida State |
| 50 | Lorenti, Chris (C) | 6'5" | 320 | 23 | R | Central Florida |
| 76 | Mathews, Jason (T) | 6'5" | 304 | 30 | 8 | Texas A&M |
| 74 | Matthews, Bruce (G-C) | 6'5" | 305 | 40 | 19 | USC |
| 71 | Miller, Fred (T) | 6'7" | 315 | 28 | 6 | Baylor |
| 75 | Olson, Benji (G) | 6'3" | 315 | 26 | 4 | Washington |
| 69 | Piller, Zach (G) | 6'5" | 330 | 25 | 3 | Florida |
| 64 | Valletta, Chris (G) | 6'3" | 300 | 23 | R | Texas A&M |
| | **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 68 | Arp, Donovan (T) | 6'3" | 285 | 23 | R | Louisville |
| 93 | Carter, Kevin (E) | 6'5" | 280 | 27 | 7 | Florida |
| 96 | Embray, Keith (E) | 6'4" | 265 | 30 | 2 | Utah |
| 91 | Evans, Josh (E-T) | 6'2" | 288 | 28 | 6 | UAB |
| 97 | Fisk, Jason (T) | 6'3" | 295 | 28 | 7 | Stanford |
| 92 | Ford, Henry (E) | 6'3" | 295 | 29 | 8 | Arkansas |
| 99 | Frisch, Byron (E) | 6'5" | 267 | 24 | 2 | BYU |
| 90 | Kearse, Jevon (E) | 6'4" | 265 | 24 | 3 | Florida |
| 95 | Salave'a, Joe (T) | 6'3" | 290 | 26 | 4 | Arizona |
| 98 | Smith, Robaire (E-T) | 6'4" | 271 | 23 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 67 | Thomas, Juqua (E) | 6'2" | 249 | 23 | R | Oklahoma St. |
| 78 | Thornton, John (T) | 6'2" | 295 | 24 | 3 | West Virginia |
| 77 | Walker, Rod (T) | 6'3" | 330 | 25 | 1 | Troy State |
| | **LINEBACKERS** | | | | | |
| 58 | Adams, Keith | 5'11" | 223 | 21 | R | Clemson |
| 47 | Betts, Tim | 6'2" | 231 | 23 | R | Troy State |
| 53 | Bulluck, Keith | 6'3" | 232 | 24 | 2 | Syracuse |
| 57 | Chamberlin, Frank | 6'1" | 250 | 23 | 2 | Boston College |
| 51 | Favors, Greg | 6'1" | 244 | 26 | 4 | Mississippi St. |
| 56 | Godfrey, Randall | 6'2" | 245 | 28 | 6 | Georgia |
| 48 | Olevao, Kautai | 6'2" | 265 | 23 | R | Utah |
| 55 | Robinson, Eddie | 6'1" | 243 | 31 | 10 | Alabama St. |
| 59 | Sirmon, Peter | 6'2" | 246 | 24 | 2 | Oregon |
| | **DEFENSIVE BACKS** | | | | | |
| 39 | Barnes, Leo | 6'0" | 182 | 22 | R | Southern Miss |
| 23 | Bishop, Blaine | 5'9" | 203 | 31 | 9 | Ball State |
| 22 | Dyson, Andre | 5'10" | 177 | 22 | R | Utah |
| 40 | McLemore, Brandon | 6'3" | 205 | 24 | 2 | Oregon |
| 30 | Mitchell, Donald | 5'9" | 185 | 24 | 2 | SMU |
| 28 | Morris, Aric | 5'10" | 208 | 24 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 32 | Myers, Bobby | 6'1" | 189 | 24 | 2 | Wisconsin |
| 35 | Phenix, Perry | 5'11" | 210 | 26 | 4 | Southern Miss |
| 21 | Rolle, Samari | 6'0" | 175 | 25 | 4 | Florida State |
| 37 | Sidney, Dainon | 6'0" | 188 | 26 | 4 | UAB |
| 31 | Spencer, Marcus | 6'1" | 211 | 23 | R | Alabama |
| | **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| 15 | Hentrich, Craig (P) | 6'3" | 205 | 30 | 8 | Notre Dame |
| 6 | Nedney, Joe (K) | 6'5" | 220 | 28 | 6 | San Jose State |

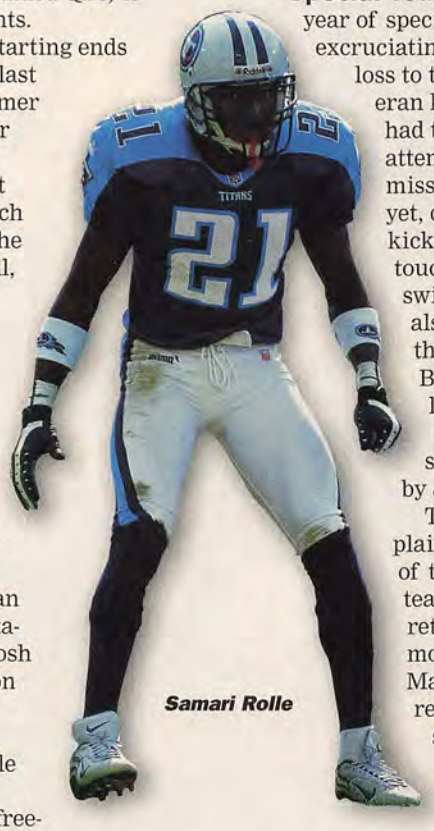
2000—left tackle Brad Hopkins with an ankle injury. That continuity helped the Titans rank seventh in rushing and allow the fourth-fewest sacks in the NFL.

Matthews enters his 19th season, tying brother Clay for longevity. Bruce's 280 games and 276 starts are league records for an offensive lineman. The Pro Bowler glues this line together; he has made fellow starters Hopkins, Kevin Long, Benji Olson and Fred Miller more confident, efficient blockers.

**Defensive Line** After losing free-agent defensive end Kenny Holmes to the Giants, the Titans traded for disgruntled Rams pass rusher Kevin Carter. The specter of a rejuvenated Carter rushing from the left side with Jevon Kearse returning to the right (the blind spot for righthanded QBs) is daunting for opponents.

No two projected starting ends have more sacks the last two seasons than former Florida Gators Carter and Kearse (53.5). Carter, who never got along with Rams coach Mike Martz the way he did with Dick Vermeil, is thrilled to be in a new environment. Kearse, who responded to a challenge from Fisher by posting eight sacks in the final seven regular-season games, is thrilled to be playing with Carter.

The ripple effect can only help a tackle rotation of Jason Fisk, Josh Evans, John Thornton and Joe Salave'a.



*Samari Rolle*

**Linebackers** Middle linebacker Randall Godfrey was a great free-agent signing a year ago. He's a premier run-stopper who doesn't mind the leadership tag. He also has good speed for a backer, quickness he displayed in a interception return for a TD last year in a win at Baltimore.

Keith Bulluck, a first-round pick in 2000, figures to push Greg Favors for the starting job on the left side. But Favors, a four-year veteran, is coming off a career year. Eddie Robinson is effective on the other side.

**Defensive Backs** The Titans led the league in pass defense and third-down efficiency, but lost two of their starters in the secondary to free agency or salary-cap issues. Gone are left cornerback Denard Walker, who went to the Broncos, and free safety Marcus Robertson, who signed with the Seahawks after being cut by the Titans.

Pro Bowl right cornerback Samari Rolle thought about going to St. Louis but was convinced to stay, in part by teammates who pointed out the benefits of playing behind such a furious pass rush. Strong safety Blaine Bishop, the other holdover, is a ball hawk like Rolle. Dainon Sidney and Andre Dyson, the playmaking younger brother of wide-out Kevin, will vie for Walker's old job, while unproven Bobby Myers has a chance to start at free safety.

**Special Teams** An outstanding year of special teams ended excruciatingly in a 24-10 playoff loss to the Ravens when veteran kicker Al Del Greco had two field-goal attempts blocked and missed a third. Worse yet, one of the blocked kicks was returned for a touchdown, a 10-point swing. Del Greco, who also missed a field goal that would have beaten Baltimore in the regular season, was released in the off-season and replaced by Joe Nedney.

There's little to complain about with the rest of the Titans' special teams. The cover and return teams avoid most mistakes, and Mason is an explosive return man who will stick with punts but might continue returning kicks. Punter Craig Hentrich knows how to tilt the battle of field position.

**Management** GM Reese stocked a Super Bowl team with solid depth in 1999 and made two critical free-agent signings in Godfrey and right tackle Miller. Getting Carter this year was a coup, and after salary-cap surgery, Reese needed to replenish that depth. Fisher remains one of the league's bright young coaches, continually refining his "46" defense and emphasizing the importance of special teams.

*—Ken Murray*

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

A return to 1999 Pro Bowl form (17 sacks) for newly-acquired defensive end Kevin Carter would send the Titans' pass rush to new heights.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Ends Carter and Jevon Kearse lock arms twice with bookend offensive tackles Jonathan Ogden and Leon Searcy of the rival Ravens. The second meeting, Nov. 12, is a Monday night affair.

### KEY STAT

Although the Ravens' D received more acclaim, the Titans led the NFL in seven defensive categories, including total yards and passing yards.

### GLUE GUY

RB Eddie George is a durable workhorse, but he needs to stay fresh to be most effective.

***Kevin Carter***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

2 **Andre Dyson** DB, Utah
Younger brother of Kevin Dyson; looks like nickel back.

3 **Shad Meier** TE, Kansas State
Offers pass-catching skills, but not much blocking ability.

4 **Justin McCareins** WR, Northern Illinois
Can snare a ball in a crowd; willing to go across middle.

5 **Eddie Berlin** WR, Northern Iowa
Like McCareins, isn't a burner, but adjusts well to ball.

6 **Dan Alexander** RB, Nebraska
Has the power of a fullback and explosion of a halfback.

6 **Adam Haayer** OT, Minnesota
Three-year starter at left tackle with tight end background.

7 **Keith Adams** LB, Clemson
Quick and active, but too short to be effective in coverage.

The Titans gave up their No. 1 pick to get defensive end Kevin Carter from the Rams—a good move—and filled holes with the rest. Dyson could turn out to be a real star as a second-rounder. He made a ton of big plays for the Utes, and he's aggressive going after the interception. He's a perfect fit for Tennessee's secondary, especially with Denard Walker gone. Meier was rated by some teams as the third-best tight end in the draft. He's bound to show up in two-tight-end sets, across the line from Frank Wycheck. The Titans hope either fourth-round pick McCareins or fifth-rounder Berlin can develop into a possession receiver reliable enough to force his way into any third-down plans.

NFL (CARTER); SCOTT HALLERAN/ALLSPORT

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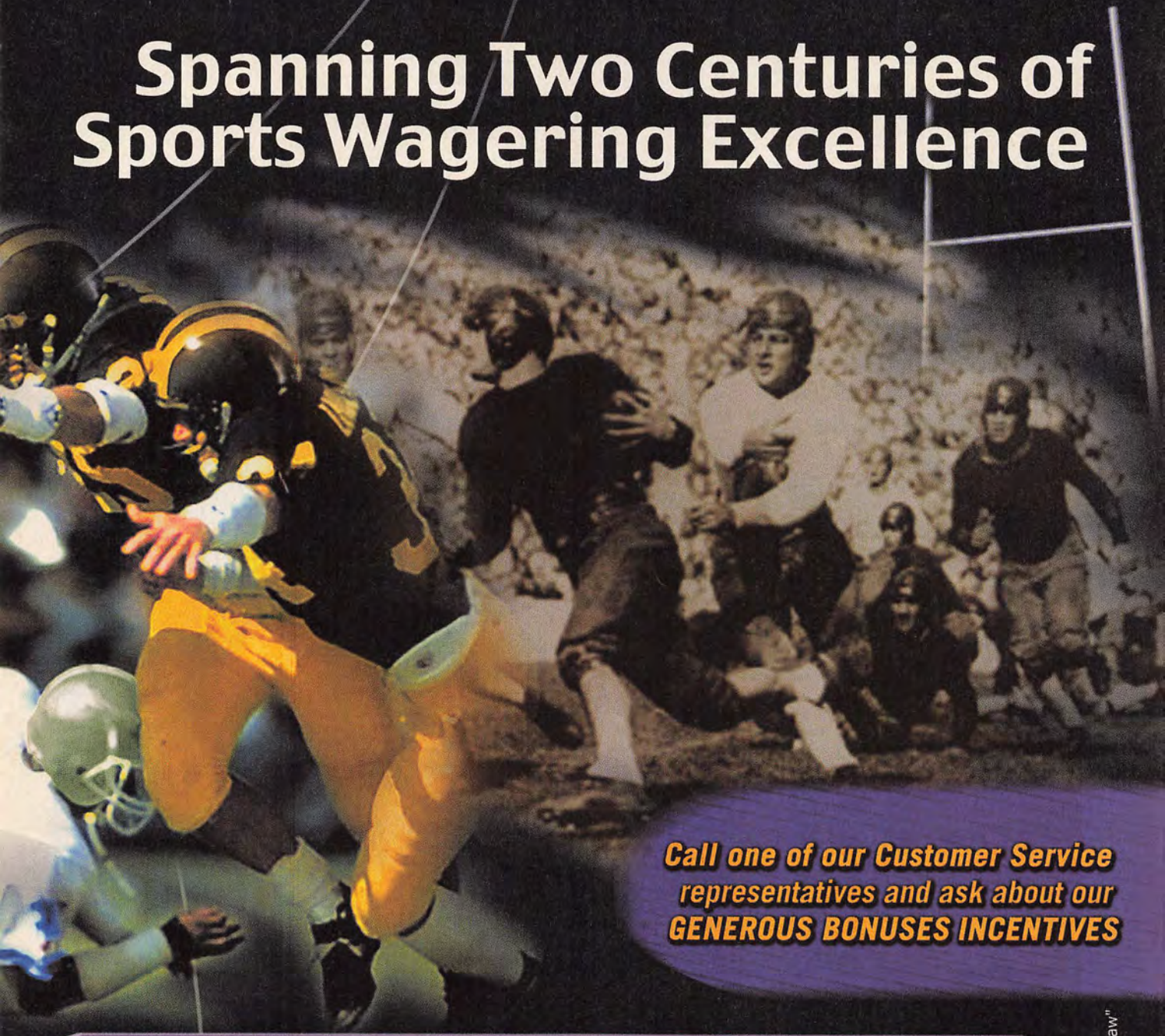

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# Jacksonville JAGUARS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Retaining Brunell practically saved the franchise. | 8 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Staying on the field is Taylor's only concern. | 7 |
| **RECEIVERS:** Smith and McCardell are top-of-the-line. | 9 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Injuries wrecked this unit last season. | 4 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Top pick Stroud is a major upgrade inside. | 5 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Keeping Kevin Hardy was critical. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** They surrendered 23 touchdown passes. Ouch. | 5 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Leaverton has Bryan Barker's shoes to fill. | 5 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** It didn't let the Jags' roof cave in. | 7 |
| **OVERALL:** They're still a threat with Brunell and Taylor. | 6 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**3rd in AFC Central**

## JAGUARS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Tom Coughlin (60-44 with Jacksonville)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Mark Brunell | 311-512, 3,640 yds, 20 TDs |
| RB | Fred Taylor | 292 car, 1,399 yds, 12 TDs |
| TE | Kyle Brady | 64 rec, 729 yds, 3 TDs |
| TE | Damon Jones | 1 rec, 12 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Jimmy Smith | 91 rec, 1,213 yds, 8 TDs |
| WR | Keenan McCardell | 94 rec, 1,207 yds, 5 TDs |
| LT | Tony Boselli | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Brad Meester | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Jeff Smith | 14 games, 12 starts |
| RG | Zach Wiegert | 8 games, 8 starts |
| RT | Maurice Williams (R) | 12 games, 12 starts* |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Renaldo Wynn | 36 tackles, 3.5 sacks |
| DT | Gary Walker | 43 tackles, 5 sacks |
| DT | Marcus Stroud (R) | 57 tackles, 4 sacks* |
| DE | Tony Brackens | 63 tackles, 7.5 sacks |
| LB | Hardy Nickerson | 31 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | T.J. Slaughter | 54 tackles, 0 sacks |
| LB | Kevin Hardy | 86 tackles, 3 sacks |
| CB | Fernando Bryant | 43 tackles, 1 INT |
| CB | Aaron Beasley | 52 tackles, 5 sacks |
| SS | Donovin Darius | 85 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Carnell Lake | DNP-INJURED |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Mike Hollis | 33-33 XPs, 24-26 FGs |
| P | David Leaverton (R) | 59 punts, 40.9* |
| KR | Shyrone Stith | 33 KR, 23.8 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | R. Jay Soward | 14 PR, 7.7 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

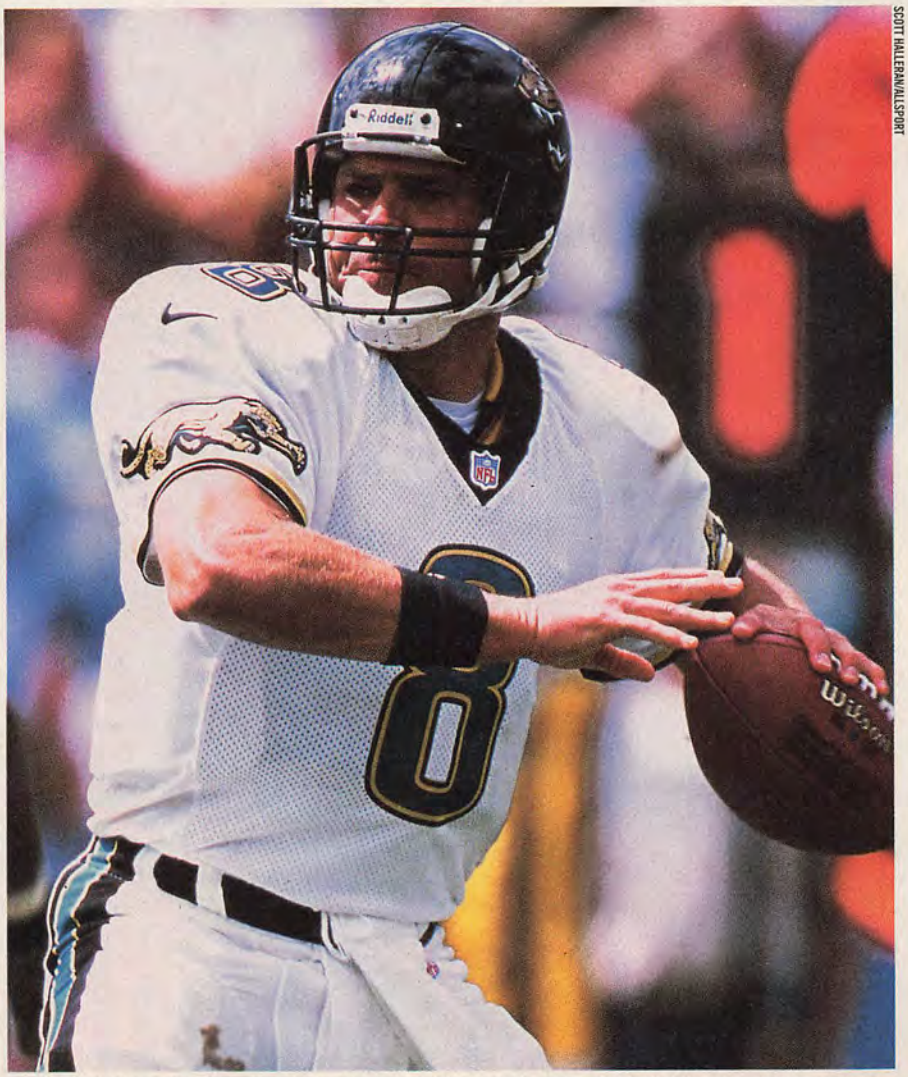
John Bonamego, special teams asst.; Perry Fewell, DBs; Frank Gansz, special teams; Paul Haynes, def. asst.; Fred Hoaglin, TEs; Jerard Ingram, RBs; Mike Maser, OL; Garrick McGee, off. asst.; John McNulty, WRs; Gary Moeller, defensive coordinator; Jerry Palmieri, strength and conditioning; John Pease, DL; Bob Petrino, offensive coordinator/QBs; Lucious Selmon, LBs; Steve Szabo, LBs

# Cap-gutted team hopes to make one more run

An off-season salary-cap purge robbed the Jaguars of valuable depth and very nearly decimated what had been the role model for expansion teams. The Jaguars released 15 players in late February and early March to negate a $38 million overflow in cap monies. Among those lost were right tackle Leon Searcy, safety Mike Logan, linebacker Brant Boyer, punt returner Reggie Barlow, starting guard Brenden Stai and punter Bryan Barker.

The only thing that kept the Jaguars from disaster was retaining quarterback Mark Brunell, who got a four-year, $30 million contract at the 11th hour of negotiations. With Brunell, the Jaguars led the division in scoring, touchdowns, total yards and passing yards. This year they have a chance to make one more playoff run before the salary cap likely triggers a total roster overhaul.

**Quarterbacks** Brunell took some $2.5 million less in up-front money to re-sign with the team, keeping the offense solvent and the franchise afloat. The three-time Pro Bowler was required to




SCOTT HALLERAN/ALLSPORT

*Brunell deferred salary to keep Jacksonville's offense and playoff aspirations afloat.*

do more behind an injury-depleted offensive line last season. He threw 512 passes, second most in his career, and tied his team record with 20 touchdown passes.

Brunell has started 84 of Jacksonville's 96 regular-season games. He's 30-14 against AFC Central rivals. He keeps this team competitive through it all. His backup again is Jamie Martin, who was initially waived in March but then re-signed.

**Running Backs** Fred Taylor's season started fitfully, but once he recovered from a strained MCL in his left knee, he was the explosive running back the Jaguars have come to expect. Taylor missed the first three regular-season games and was only modestly effective his first three games back. Taylor then gained at least 100 yards in nine straight games as the Jaguars tried to claw their way back from a 2-6 start. Taylor, whose 107.6 ypg average was best in the AFC Central, is always a threat to go the distance.

He's also always at risk to pull up lame. The second running back chosen in the 1998 draft behind Curtis Enis, Taylor has missed nine full games the past two seasons because of injuries. Last year, having lost James Stewart to free agency, the Jaguars had no running game until Taylor was healthy.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The Jaguars had the second most productive receiving tandem in the NFL last year in Keenan McCardell and Jimmy Smith, who combined for 185 catches. Only Denver's Ed McCaffrey and Rod Smith, who totaled 201, had more. Jimmy Smith has been the league's most productive receiver over the last five years with 450 catches, good for 6,599 yards.

In April, Smith had two surgeries to repair scar tissue and remove an obstruction in his small intestine, problems related to a 1993 appendectomy. Jags officials were confident Smith would be ready for the season, despite a slow recovery that caused him to drop weight and had his family urging him to retire.

If Smith can go, he and McCardell will carve up secondaries. If not, the Jags would desperately need help—the word was they were talking with Eagles castoff Charles Johnson.

Tight end Kyle Brady is more than capable in the middle as a superb blocker and threat downfield. He makes up for the lack of a quality third wideout, the role R. Jay Soward was expected to fill last season. Instead, Soward struggled, catching only 14 balls and becoming a disruptive force in Jacksonville's locker room.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Chicago | 4:15 |
| Sept. 23 | TENNESSEE | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | CLEVELAND | 4:15 |
| Oct. 7 | at Seattle | 4:05 |
| Oct. 14 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 18 | BUFFALO | 8:30 |
| Oct. 28 | at Baltimore | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | at Tennessee | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at Pittsburgh | 4:05 |
| Nov. 25 | BALTIMORE | 1:00 |
| Dec. 3 | GREEN BAY | 9:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at Cincinnati | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at Cleveland | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Minnesota | 4:15 |
| Dec. 30 | KANSAS CITY | 1:00 |

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## 2000 RESULTS

7-9, 4th in AFC CENTRAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Cleveland | W, 27-7 |
| Sept. 10 | at Baltimore | L, 36-39 |
| Sept. 17 | CINCINNATI | W, 13-0 |
| Sept. 25 | at Indianapolis | L, 14-43 |
| Oct. 1 | PITTSBURGH | L, 13-24 |
| Oct. 8 | BALTIMORE | L, 10-15 |
| Oct. 16 | at Tennessee | L, 13-27 |
| Oct. 22 | WASHINGTON | L, 16-35 |
| Oct. 29 | at Dallas | W, 23-17 |
| Nov. 12 | SEATTLE | L, 21-28 |
| Nov. 19 | at Pittsburgh | W, 34-24 |
| Nov. 26 | TENNESSEE | W, 16-13 |
| Dec. 3 | CLEVELAND | W, 48-0 |
| Dec. 10 | ARIZONA | W, 44-10 |
| Dec. 17 | at Cincinnati | L, 14-17 |
| Dec. 23 | at New York Giants | L, 25-28 |

## 2000 JAGUARS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 355.6 (7) | 127.0 (10) | 228.6 (9) | 22.9 (8) | 18 (5t) | 22 (9t) | 4.2 (12t) | 11.9 (12t) | 54 (28) | 318 (8) | 42.6 (7) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 302.8 (12) | 105.3 (11) | 197.5 (14) | 20.4 (15t) | 14 (20t) | 23 (17t) | 3.9 (8t) | 13.2 (29t) | 40 (15t) | 12 (25t) | 1 (15) |

## 2001 JAGUARS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | Brunell, Mark | 6'1" | 217 | 30 | 9 | Washington |
| 10 | Martin, Jamie | 6'2" | 216 | 31 | 6 | Weber State |
| 12 | Quinn, Jonathan | 6'6" | 239 | 26 | 4 | Middle Tenn. St. |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 | Joseph, Elvis | 6'1" | 217 | 23 | R | Southern |
| 34 | Mack, Stacey | 6'1" | 237 | 27 | 3 | Temple |
| 40 | McClintock, Dustin (FB) | 6'3" | 271 | 23 | R | Alabama |
| 33 | Stith, Shyrone | 5'7" | 206 | 23 | 2 | Virginia Tech |
| 28 | Taylor, Fred | 6'1" | 231 | 25 | 4 | Florida |
| 31 | Washington, Patrick (FB) | 6'2" | 240 | 23 | R | Virginia |
| 22 | Westbrooks, Jerry | 6'2" | 230 | 24 | R | Ohio State |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 80 | Brady, Kyle (TE) | 6'6" | 277 | 29 | 7 | Penn State |
| 84 | Flowers, Richmond | 5'11" | 195 | 23 | R | UT-Chattanooga |
| 48 | Franklin, Nick (TE) | 6'2" | 258 | 24 | R | Florida State |
| 18 | Harris, Marcellus | 5'10" | 181 | 23 | R | East Carolina |
| 83 | Hart, Lawrence (TE) | 6'4" | 254 | 24 | 1 | Southern |
| 88 | Jones, Damon (TE) | 6'5" | 271 | 26 | 5 | Southern Illinois |
| 87 | McCardell, Keenan | 6'1" | 190 | 31 | 10 | UNLV |
| 80 | Neufeld, Ryan (TE) | 6'4" | 240 | 25 | 3 | UCLA |
| 46 | Prince, Ryan (TE) | 6'4" | 254 | 24 | R | Weber State |
| 89 | Smith, Emanuel | 6'1" | 210 | 25 | 1 | Arkansas |
| 82 | Smith, Jimmy | 6'1" | 204 | 32 | 9 | Jackson State |
| 81 | Soward, R.Jay | 5'11" | 178 | 23 | 2 | USC |
| 17 | Stanley, Antonio | 5'9" | 169 | 22 | R | Bethune-Cookman |
| 86 | Whitted, Alvis | 6'0" | 185 | 26 | 4 | N.C. State |
| 19 | Williams, Randal | 6'3" | 219 | 23 | R | New Hampshire |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 69 | Baniewicz, Mark (T) | 6'6" | 304 | 24 | 2 | Syracuse |
| 71 | Boselli, Tony (T) | 6'7" | 318 | 29 | 7 | USC |
| 65 | Collins, McAllister (C) | 6'2" | 307 | 22 | R | Northern Illinois |
| 64 | Koch, Aaron (G) | 6'3" | 300 | 23 | 2 | Oregon State |
| 79 | Ledford, Dwayne (G) | 6'3" | 295 | 24 | 1 | East Carolina |
| 63 | Meester, Brad (G) | 6'3" | 300 | 24 | 2 | Northern Iowa |
| 79 | Nelson, Reggie (T) | 6'3" | 321 | 25 | 2 | McNeese State |
| 67 | Shepherd, Gannon (T) | 6'8" | 301 | 24 | 1 | Duke |
| 73 | Smith, Jeff (G) | 6'3" | 316 | 28 | 5 | Tennessee |
| 70 | Venzke, Patrick (T) | 6'6" | 316 | 26 | R | Idaho |
| 66 | Wade, John (C) | 6'5" | 296 | 26 | 4 | Marshall |
| 62 | Ward, Chad (G) | 6'5" | 321 | 24 | R | Washington |
| 77 | Wiegert, Zach (T) | 6'5" | 311 | 29 | 7 | Nebraska |
| 74 | Williams, Maurice (T) | 6'5" | 307 | 22 | R | Michigan |
| 60 | Young, Bill (G) | 6'4" | 313 | 23 | R | Appalachian St. |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 90 | Brackens, Tony (E) | 6'4" | 271 | 26 | 6 | Texas |
| 98 | Chevrier, Randy (T) | 6'2" | 293 | 25 | R | McGill (Canada) |
| 68 | Harklau, Ryan (T) | 6'3" | 280 | 23 | R | Iowa State |
| 93 | Leroy, Emarlos (T) | 6'1" | 304 | 26 | 3 | Georgia |
| 75 | Lockhart, Radell (E) | 6'2" | 258 | 22 | R | Catawba |
| 92 | Meier, Rob (E) | 6'5" | 270 | 24 | 2 | Washington St. |
| 61 | Nikolao, Jason (T) | 6'2" | 309 | 22 | R | Oregon |
| 91 | Payne, Seth (T) | 6'4" | 290 | 26 | 5 | Cornell |
| 94 | Smith, Larry (T) | 6'5" | 284 | 26 | 3 | Florida State |
| 95 | Spicer, Paul (E) | 6'4" | 271 | 26 | 2 | Saginaw Valley St. |
| 99 | Stroud, Marcus (T) | 6'6" | 317 | 23 | R | Georgia |
| 96 | Walker, Gary (E) | 6'2" | 300 | 28 | 7 | Auburn |
| 97 | Wynn, Renaldo (E) | 6'3" | 288 | 26 | 5 | Notre Dame |

### LINEBACKERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | Clark, Danny | 6'2" | 240 | 24 | 2 | Illinois |
| 44 | Denman, Anthony | 6'1" | 239 | 21 | R | Notre Dame |
| 49 | Govan, Ryan | 6'3" | 259 | 23 | R | North Dakota |
| 51 | Hardy, Kevin | 6'4" | 248 | 28 | 6 | Illinois |
| 50 | Hogans, Richard | 6'2" | 250 | 26 | 1 | Memphis |
| 58 | Marts, Lonnie | 6'2" | 250 | 32 | 12 | Tulane |
| 56 | Nickerson, Hardy | 6'2" | 235 | 36 | 15 | California |
| 54 | Pelshak, Troy B | 6'2" | 242 | 24 | 3 | N. Carolina A&T |
| 53 | Slaughter, T.J. | 6'0" | 239 | 24 | 2 | Southern Miss |
| 57 | Tuipala, Joe | 6'0" | 240 | 24 | 1 | San Diego St. |
| 52 | Westmoreland, Eric | 5'11" | 236 | 24 | R | Tennessee |
| 47 | Williams, Brian | 6'1" | 257 | 23 | R | NW Missouri St. |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | Beasley, Aaron | 6'0" | 195 | 28 | 6 | West Virginia |
| 42 | Boyd, James | 5'11" | 208 | 23 | R | Penn State |
| 26 | Brown, Delvin | 5'11" | 202 | 21 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 25 | Bryant, Fernando | 5'10" | 176 | 24 | 3 | Alabama |
| 38 | Cooks, Kerry | 5'11" | 204 | 27 | 1 | Iowa |
| 29 | Craft, Jason | 5'10" | 178 | 25 | 3 | Colorado State |
| 27 | Criss, Shad | 5'11" | 184 | 25 | 2 | Missouri |
| 20 | Darius, Donovin | 6'1" | 216 | 26 | 4 | Syracuse |
| 30 | Gates, Nate | 5'11" | 188 | 23 | R | Georgia Southern |
| 37 | Lake, Carnell | 6'1" | 213 | 34 | 13 | UCLA |
| 32 | McCree, Marlon | 5'11" | 197 | 24 | R | Kentucky |
| 24 | Miller, Craig | 5'11" | 199 | 23 | 1 | Utah State |
| 45 | Olson, Erik | 6'1" | 210 | 24 | 2 | Colorado State |
| 41 | Thomas, Kiwaukee | 5'11" | 183 | 24 | 2 | Georgia Southern |
| 36 | Watkins, James | 6'4" | 210 | 23 | R | Tennessee St. |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hollis, Mike (K) | 5'7" | 174 | 29 | 7 | Idaho |
| 6 | Langley, Aron (P) | 6'0" | 188 | 25 | 1 | Wyoming |
| 3 | Leaverton, David (P) | 6'4" | 215 | 23 | R | Tennessee |
| 5 | Tarle, Jim (K) | 6'0" | 221 | 28 | 2 | Arkansas St. |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Despite missing three games with a knee injury, RB Fred Taylor had career highs in rushing yards (1,399) and average (4.8). He remains one of the game's most exciting big-play threats.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Quarterback Mark Brunell goes against his original team, the Packers, Dec. 3 in a Monday night affair. The Brunell-Brett Favre matchup is worth setting the VCR for.

### KEY STAT

An injury-riddled O-line left Brunell exposed last year. He needs more time to work his magic.

### GLUE GUY

Pardon the seeming redundancy, but without Brunell, the Jags would have the look of a hang-dog expansion team.

***Fred Taylor***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Marcus Stroud | DT, Georgia |
| | A big body inside who can help free Brackens on the rush. | |
| 2 | Maurice Williams | OT, Michigan |
| | Has a major job protecting Brunell's blind side. | |
| 3 | Eric Westmoreland | LB, Tennessee |
| | Explosive hitter with good range, but undersized. | |
| 3 | James Boyd | S, Penn State |
| | Competitor who should help at safety and on special teams. | |
| 5 | David Leaverton | P, Tennessee |
| | Has strong leg and can kick off, but is inconsistent. | |
| 6 | Chad Ward | G, Washington |
| | Massive, powerful body, although not very agile. | |
| 7 | Anthony Denman | LB, Notre Dame |
| | Tough inside player who will contribute on special teams. | |
| 7 | Marlon McCree | DB, Kentucky |
| | Linebacker in college who projects as a pro safety. | |
| 7 | Richmond Flowers | WR, Chattanooga |
| | Not a burner, but can make tough grabs and return kicks. | |
| 7 | Randy Chevrier | DT, McGill |
| | Long snapper out of Canada. | |

**B-** The Jaguars passed on Florida's Kenyatta Walker, the second-best offensive tackle in the draft, to take Stroud, who will improve the team's soft run defense. They got the third-rated tackle in Williams, who will be key in the effort to cut down on Brunell's sacks. Since Jacksonville is cap-strapped, all the picks have a chance to stick and contribute.

**Offensive Line** Major reconstruction of the line is needed after injuries and free-agent defections rocked the unit. In addition to losing Searcy and Stai, unrestricted free-agent tackle Todd Fordham signed with Denver.

Right tackle was especially troublesome after Searcy went down in the preseason and his replacement, Zach Wiegert, tore an ACL in the eighth game. Fordham finished the season there. The Jaguars would like to move Wiegert back to right guard. They drafted Maurice Williams in the second round to fill the hole at tackle.

The left side of the line remains intact with tackle Tony Boselli, a bulldozing run blocker, and guard Brad Meester. Jacksonville started three different players at center, and re-signed Jeff Smith, who started 12 times.

**Defensive Line** The Jaguars didn't get the sack production they wanted last season, when end Tony Brackens faced double teams each week and managed just 7 1/2 sacks. Brackens needs a pass-rushing counterpart on the other side to make offenses play him honest. Renaldo Wynn is mostly suited to stopping the run.

Brackens got some help inside in the draft, when the Jaguars took Marcus Stroud in the first round. He can have an immediate impact. Returning tackle Gary Walker is solid against the run, and he has been durable. Seth Payne and Larry Smith are insurance if Stroud needs some time to develop.

**Linebackers** The Jaguars were nicked at linebacker last year, too. Hardy Nickerson saw duty at both middle and weakside backer, but he was limited to six games by knee and hamstring injuries. He'll probably play the strong side this year to allow young T.J. Slaughter space to continue his growth.

The surprise is that the Jaguars expect Kevin Hardy to return as well, despite an acrimonious attempt to rework his contract in the salary-cap crunch. Hardy refused to renegotiate and at one point asked to be traded. The Jags were able to work through the problem and keep him, a key development for new defensive coordinator Gary Moeller.

***Kevin Hardy***

**Defensive Backs** Injuries also hit the secondary, where strong safety Donovin Darius was the only defensive back to start every game. He led the secondary in tackles for a third straight year.

Free safety Carnell Lake spent the season on IR with a stress fracture in his left foot, and his healthy return brings a much-needed veteran presence. Cornerbacks Fernando Bryant and Aaron Beasley, who each missed two games with injuries, have good speed but must be more aggressive. They're largely to blame for the 23 passing TDs the Jaguars allowed last year.

**Special Teams** Kicker Mike Hollis had a terrific season despite missing time with a back injury. He boasts a career success rate of 83% on field goals, including an impressive 10 for 13 on 50-yarders.

The Jaguars drafted Tennessee's David Leaverton to replace Barker. Leaverton's strong leg will ease the transition. The Jags allowed touchdown returns in both the punting and kicking games last year. And they struggled bringing back their own kicks. Soward will be given a chance to replace Barlow returning punts, and Shyrone Stith is an up-and-coming speedster returning kickoffs.

**Management** Coach Tom Coughlin, senior vice president of football operations Michael Huyghue and director of player personnel Rick Reiprish did a wonderful job bringing this expansion team to Super Bowl contention and four straight playoff appearances. But that streak ended last season with a 7-9 disappointment, and it appears this current group's best chances at a Super Bowl have passed. A veteran nucleus will get one last shot this season, and it needs to avoid last year's run of injuries to have any realistic chance.

*—Ken Murray*

NFL (TAYLOR); SCOTT HALLERAN/ALLSPORT

# Pittsburgh STEELERS

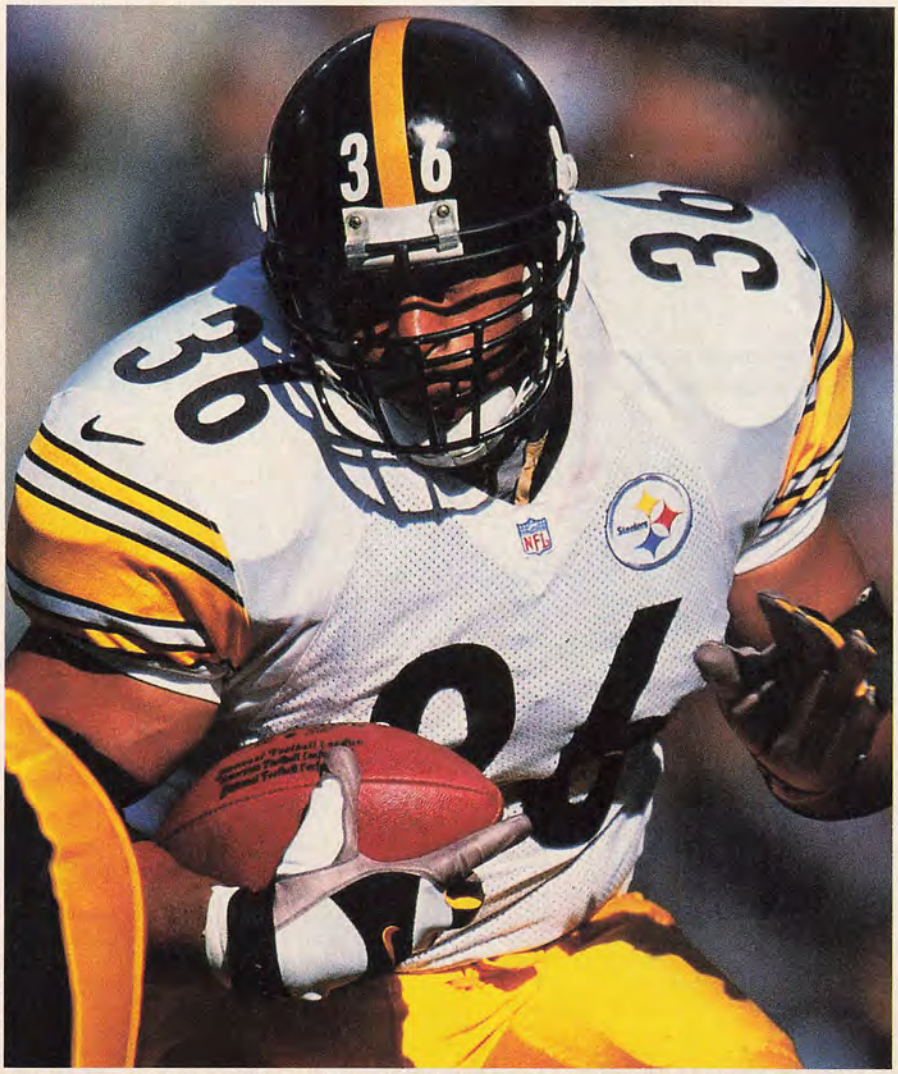
# Stewart's maturity key to stealing playoff berth

With an ever-changing quarterback picture and a new director of football operations, the Steelers bounced back from two losing seasons to achieve a resurgence, if not make the playoffs, in 2000. That's testimony to the staying power of coach Bill Cowher and the resiliency of the franchise.

After fading badly down the stretch in 1999 to finish 6-10, the Steelers made a playoff run a year ago, winning four of their last five to finish at 9-7. When the season ended, Cowher moved decisively to correct lingering offensive deficiencies. And when the off-season hit, he was patching holes again after cap-induced cuts stripped the team of its offensive and defensive captains.

As usual, the Steelers' playoff hopes will come down to whether quarterback Kordell Stewart finally takes hold of the offensive reins, or continues to straddle the fence of mediocrity. Some things never change, it seems.

**Quarterbacks** When the Steelers finished the 2000 season with the 29th-ranked pass offense, Cowher sacked



ROB BROWN/SPORTPICS

***Bettis signed a new six-year contract after his most successful season since 1997.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Stewart's still a work in progress. | **5** |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** The Bus needs relief from the passing game. | **7** |
| **RECEIVERS:** Burress' spotty scouting reports weren't wrong. | **5** |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Hartings fills the hole left by Dawson's departure. | **6** |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Steelers banking on a rookie in the middle. | **5** |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Jones should be better in pass coverage. | **7** |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Logan represents a needed upgrade. | **6** |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Miller gives the Steelers another weapon. | **7** |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Hanging tough, they're competitive again. | **7** |
| **OVERALL:** Kordell must hit it big for any jump in standings. | **5.5** |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**4th in AFC Central**

## STEELERS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Bill Cowher (91-64 with Pittsburgh)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Kordell Stewart | 151-289, 1,860 yds, 11 TDs |
| RB | Jerome Bettis | 355 car, 1,341 yds, 8 TDs |
| FB | Jon Witman | 3 car, 5 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Mark Bruener | 17 rec, 192 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | Plaxico Burress | 22 rec, 273 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Hines Ward | 48 rec, 672 yds, 4 TDs |
| LT | Wayne Gandy | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Alan Faneca | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Jeff Hartings (DET) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Rich Tylski | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Marvel Smith | 12 games, 9 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Aaron Smith | 42 tackles, 4 sacks |
| NT | Casey Hampton (R) | 78 tackles, 3.5 sacks* |
| DE | Kimo von Oelhoffen | 44 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Jason Gildon | 77 tackles, 13.5 sacks |
| LB | Mike Jones (STL) | 73 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Earl Holmes | 128 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Joey Porter | 59 tackles, 10.5 sacks |
| CB | Chad Scott | 70 tackles, 5 INTs |
| CB | Dewayne Washington | 78 tackles, 5 INTs |
| SS | Mike Logan (JAX) | 54 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Brent Alexander | 76 tackles, 3 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Kris Brown | 32-33 XPs, 25-30 FGs |
| P | Josh Miller | 90 punts, 43.8 avg |
| KR | Hank Poteat | 24 KR, 19.4 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Hank Poteat | 36 PR, 13.0 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Mike Archer, LBs; Tom Clements, QBs; Chet Fuhrman, strength and conditioning; Russ Grimm, OL; Jay Hayes, special teams; Dick Hoak, RBs; Kenny Jackson, WRs; Tim Lewis, defensive coordinator; Mike Miller, admin. asst.; John Mitchell, DL; Mike Mularkey, offensive coordinator; Willy Robinson, DBs; Lou Spanos, admin. asst.; Ken Whisenhunt, TEs

offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride and promoted tight ends coach Mike Mularkey. Once again, the idea is to get Stewart back on the fast track.

Stewart seemingly took a big step during the stretch run, when he won four of the team's last five games and had a passer rating of 85.6. He no longer worried about becoming a pocket passer, but was intent on using both his legs and his arm to try to win games. In 11 starts last year, Stewart went 7-4. For his career, he is 30-24. He's still the most viable option available.

Mularkey will simplify the offense for Stewart, who also should benefit from having his first NFL quarterback coach in Tom Clements.

Kent Graham played five games last season and was unable to hold onto the job. He completed only 44.6% of his passes, won only twice, then had rotator cuff surgery in January. Unlike last year, he'll start 2001 as a clear backup.

**Running Backs** This is still a running team under Cowher. Last year, the Steelers ran the ball 527 times and attempted 439 passes. Only the Titans ran the ball more.

Jerome Bettis, an eight-year veteran, was productive for the Steelers, even though defenses knew the passing game was in a shambles. His 1,341 yards on 355 carries were the most he had since the team's playoff season of 1997. He was rewarded in the off-season with a six-year, $30 million contract.

Richard Huntley and Amos Zereoue, both unproven, back up Bettis, so he needs to stay healthy. The fullback will be either second-year man Dan Kreider, or Jon Witman, whose year ended with a broken leg in October.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Wideouts Plaxico Burress and Troy Edwards, the eight and 13th overall picks in the last two drafts, combined for zero touchdown catches last season. Both obviously played well below expectations. As a rookie, Burress had just 22 catches in 12 games when his season ended in November with a wrist injury that required surgery. Perhaps his most memorable play was an infamous spike of a live ball after a catch against Jacksonville. Edwards' rookie production of 61 catches and five TDs in 1999 plunged to 18 and none in 2000.

The best receivers in Pittsburgh's passing game are Hines Ward and Bobby Shaw, who had four touchdown catches apiece. Shaw's average catch of 16.8 yards was tops among regulars; Hines was next at 14.0.

Tight end Mark Bruener is a productive run blocker and occasional receiver.

**Offensive Line** The Steelers lost one of their warriors when they had to cut offensive captain and center Dermontti

## 2001 SCHEDULE
**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Jacksonville | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | CLEVELAND | 8:30 |
| Sept. 23 | Open Date | |
| Sept. 30 | at Buffalo | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at Kansas City | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Tampa Bay | 1:00 |
| Oct. 29 | TENNESSEE | 9:00 |
| Nov. 4 | BALTIMORE | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at Cleveland | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | JACKSONVILLE | 4:05 |
| Nov. 25 | at Tennessee | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | MINNESOTA | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | NEW YORK JETS | 4:15 |
| Dec. 16 | at Baltimore | 8:30 |
| Dec. 23 | DETROIT | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Cincinnati | 1:00 |

STEELERS STADIUM (65,000)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
**9-7, 3rd in AFC CENTRAL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | BALTIMORE | L, 0-16 |
| Sept. 17 | at Cleveland | L, 20-23 |
| Sept. 24 | TENNESSEE | L, 20-23 |
| Oct. 1 | at Jacksonville | W, 24-13 |
| Oct. 8 | at New York Jets | W, 20-3 |
| Oct. 15 | CINCINNATI | W, 15-0 |
| Oct. 22 | CLEVELAND | W, 22-0 |
| Oct. 29 | at Baltimore | W, 9-6 |
| Nov. 5 | at Tennessee | L, 7-9 |
| Nov. 12 | PHILADELPHIA | L, 23-26 |
| Nov. 19 | JACKSONVILLE | L, 24-34 |
| Nov. 26 | at Cincinnati | W, 48-28 |
| Dec. 3 | OAKLAND | W, 21-20 |
| Dec. 10 | at New York Giants | L, 10-30 |
| Dec. 16 | WASHINGTON | W, 24-3 |
| Dec. 24 | at San Diego | W, 34-21 |

## 2000 STEELERS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 297.9 (18) | 140.5 (4) | 157.4 (29) | 20.1 (17t) | 19 (4) | 12 (28t) | 4.3 (7t) | 12.6 (4t) | 43 (19t) | 283 (19t) | 37.6 (19) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 294.6 (7) | 105.8 (12) | 188.8 (9) | 15.9 (6) | 9 (6t) | 13 (5t) | 4.0 (11t) | 11.6 (18t) | 38 (18t) | 17 (13t) | 14 (6) |

## 2001 STEELERS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11 | Graham, Kent | 6'5" | 245 | 32 | 10 | Ohio State |
| 17 | Martin, Tee | 6'1" | 221 | 23 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 10 | Stewart, Kordell | 6'1" | 211 | 28 | 7 | Colorado |
| 8 | Turman, John | 6'4" | 220 | 23 | R | Pittsburgh |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 36 | Bettis, Jerome | 5'11" | 250 | 29 | 9 | Notre Dame |
| 45 | Fuamatu-Ma'afala, Chris (FB) | 5'11" | 252 | 24 | 4 | Utah |
| 33 | Huntley, Richard | 5'11" | 225 | 29 | 5 | Winston-Salem St. |
| 35 | Kreider, Dan (FB) | 5'11" | 242 | 24 | 2 | New Hampshire |
| 38 | Witman, Jon (FB) | 6'1" | 240 | 29 | 6 | Penn State |
| 21 | Zereoue, Amos | 5'8" | 202 | 24 | 3 | West Virginia |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18 | Baker, Tim | 6'5" | 200 | 23 | R | Texas Tech |
| 89 | Blackwell, Will | 6'1" | 190 | 26 | 4 | San Diego State |
| 87 | Bruener, Mark (TE) | 6'4" | 261 | 28 | 7 | Washington |
| 80 | Burress, Plaxico | 6'5" | 229 | 24 | 2 | Michigan State |
| 85 | Cushing, Matt (TE) | 6'3" | 258 | 26 | 3 | Illinois |
| 81 | Edwards, Troy | 5'9" | 192 | 24 | 3 | Louisiana Tech |
| 85 | Geason, Cory (TE) | 6'3" | 255 | 26 | 2 | Tulane |
| 15 | Getherall, Joey | 5'7" | 177 | 23 | R | Notre Dame |
| 83 | Loud, Kamil | 6'0" | 190 | 25 | 3 | Cal-Poly SLO |
| 82 | Shaw, Bobby | 6'0" | 186 | 26 | 4 | California |
| 46 | Sprague, Ryan (TE) | 6'5" | 260 | 24 | R | Florida State |
| 84 | Tuman, Jerame (TE) | 6'3" | 250 | 25 | 3 | Michigan |
| 86 | Ward, Hines | 6'1" | 197 | 25 | 4 | Georgia |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 68 | Bobo, David (G) | 6'4" | 291 | 24 | R | TCU |
| 78 | Conrad, Chris (T) | 6'6" | 310 | 26 | 3 | Fresno State |
| 62 | Duffy, Roger (G) | 6'3" | 299 | 34 | 12 | Penn State |
| 66 | Faneca, Alan (G) | 6'4" | 315 | 24 | 4 | LSU |
| 79 | Fehrman, Rob (T) | 6'7" | 300 | 23 | R | Bowling Green |
| 72 | Gandy, Wayne (T) | 6'5" | 310 | 30 | 8 | Auburn |
| 64 | Hartings, Jeff (G-C) | 6'3" | 295 | 29 | 6 | Penn State |
| 61 | Myslinski, Tom (G) | 6'3" | 293 | 32 | 10 | Tennessee |
| 78 | Nkwenti, Mathias (T) | 6'4" | 288 | 22 | R | Temple |
| 56 | Okobi, Chukky (C) | 6'1" | 315 | 22 | R | Purdue |
| 60 | Ross, Oliver (T) | 6'4" | 310 | 26 | 3 | Iowa State |
| 54 | Schneck, Mike (LS) | 6'0" | 242 | 23 | 1 | Wisconsin |
| 77 | Smith, Marvel (T) | 6'5" | 320 | 23 | 2 | Arizona State |
| 71 | Tharpe, Larry (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 30 | 8 | Tennessee St. |
| 65 | Tylski, Rich (G) | 6'5" | 308 | 30 | 6 | Utah State |
| 76 | Vincent, Keydrick (G) | 6'5" | 347 | 23 | R | Mississippi |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 93 | Almanzar, Luis (T) | 6'3" | 282 | 24 | R | SW Missouri St. |
| 94 | Bailey, Rodney (E) | 6'3" | 281 | 21 | R | Ohio State |
| 96 | Clancy, Kendrick (T) | 6'1" | 280 | 22 | 2 | Mississippi |
| 73 | Combs, Chris (T) | 6'4" | 284 | 24 | 2 | Duke |
| 98 | Hampton, Casey (T) | 6'1" | 321 | 23 | R | Texas |
| 76 | Hoke, Chris (T) | 6'2" | 295 | 25 | R | BYU |
| 91 | Smith, Aaron (E) | 6'5" | 281 | 25 | 3 | Northern Colorado |
| 74 | Sullivan, Chris (E) | 6'4" | 285 | 28 | 6 | Boston College |
| 69 | von Oelhoffen, Kimo (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 30 | 8 | Boise State |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 97 | Bell, Kendrell | 6'1" | 236 | 21 | R | Georgia |
| 44 | Evitts, Chad | 6'0" | 230 | 23 | R | Tennessee Tech |
| 57 | Fiala, John | 6'2" | 235 | 27 | 4 | Washington |
| 92 | Gildon, Jason | 6'3" | 255 | 29 | 8 | Oklahoma St. |
| 53 | Haggans, Clark | 6'3" | 250 | 24 | 2 | Colorado State |
| 50 | Holmes, Earl | 6'2" | 250 | 28 | 6 | Florida A&M |
| 51 | Jones, Mike | 6'1" | 240 | 32 | 10 | Missouri |
| 95 | Knight, Roger | 6'0" | 236 | 22 | R | Wisconsin |
| 37 | Kurpeikis, Justin | 6'3" | 257 | 24 | R | Penn State |
| 55 | Porter, Joey | 6'2" | 240 | 24 | 3 | Colorado State |
| | Sands, Mike | 6'4" | 235 | 23 | R | Harvard |
| 90 | Thompson, Donnel | 5'11" | 234 | 23 | 2 | Wisconsin |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27 | Alexander, Brent | 5'11" | 196 | 30 | 8 | Tennessee St. |
| 28 | Battles, Ainsley | 5'10" | 190 | 23 | 2 | Vanderbilt |
| 40 | Bell, Myron | 6'0" | 210 | 29 | 7 | Michigan State |
| 24 | Codie, Nikia | 6'2" | 208 | 25 | 2 | Baylor |
| 41 | Flowers, Lee | 6'0" | 211 | 27 | 7 | Georgia Tech |
| 32 | Logan, Mike | 6'0" | 209 | 26 | 5 | West Virginia |
| 22 | Poteat, Hank | 5'10" | 190 | 24 | 2 | Pittsburgh |
| 54 | Schneck, Mike | 6'1" | 242 | 24 | 3 | Wisconsin |
| 30 | Scott, Chad | 6'1" | 192 | 26 | 5 | Maryland |
| 47 | Shields, Scott | 6'4" | 228 | 25 | 3 | Weber State |
| 23 | Simmons, Jason | 5'8" | 186 | 25 | 4 | Arizona State |
| 43 | Strickland, Timothy | 5'9" | 183 | 24 | R | Mississippi |
| 42 | Stukes, Dwayne | 5'9" | 185 | 24 | R | Virginia |
| 26 | Townsend, Deshea | 5'10" | 175 | 25 | 4 | Alabama |
| 20 | Washington, Dewayne | 6'1" | 193 | 28 | 8 | N.C. State |
| 28 | Williams, Payton | 5'7" | 170 | 22 | 2 | Fresno State |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Brown, Kris (K) | 5'10" | 204 | 24 | 3 | Nebraska |
| 5 | Kohl, Andy (P) | 6'4" | 220 | 22 | R | New Mexico St. |
| 4 | Miller, Josh (P) | 6'3" | 219 | 31 | 6 | Arizona |

Dawson for salary-cap reasons. The injury-plagued Dawson was limited to nine games with a recurring hamstring problem. The team replaced him quickly, though, with free agent Jeff Hartings, who will shift to center after playing guard for Detroit.

Tackle Wayne Gandy and guards Alan Faneca and Rich Tylski were constants in the line, starting every game. The result was the fourth-best rushing offense in the league. The Steelers used three players at right tackle, but rookie Marvel Smith started the first three games and the last six to become the man. With Hartings, the line hopes to cut down on its 43 sacks allowed, a high number considering Stewart's mobility.

**Defensive Line** Pittsburgh would like to get more of a pass rush from its three-man front. Aaron Smith, Kimo von Oelhoffen and Kevin Henry combined for a total of five sacks last season. Henry was cut in the salary-cap maneuvering and signed with Cincinnati.

The Steelers will plug 320-pound first-round draft pick Casey Hampton in at nosetackle. He'll be a force against the run, and could create more production from von Oelhoffen at right end, where he has had success, and Smith at left end.

**Linebackers** The off-season release of defensive captain Levon Kirkland leaves a huge hole in the middle of the defense. The Steelers did well to sign former Rams linebacker Mike Jones, and then, looking to the future, they drafted Kendrell Bell in the second round. Bell can play inside, but he also has the speed to play outside. Earl Holmes blossomed at the other inside linebacker position, leading the team with 128 tackles in a gritty performance. Nevertheless, opposing running backs averaged four yards a carry against the Steelers.

Jason Gildon and Joey Porter are sackmasters on the outside. Gildon's career-high 13 1/2 sacks and five forced fumbles earned him his first Pro Bowl appearance. He has led the team in sacks the past three seasons. Porter contributed 10 1/2 from the right side.

**Defensive Backs** The Steelers ranked ninth in pass defense last year and eighth in third-down efficiency. Their cornerbacks, Chad Scott and Dewayne Washington, had identical numbers with five interceptions and 25 passes defensed each. Scott bounced back from knee injuries he had suffered the previous two seasons.

The team made a move in free agency to land Jaguars veteran Mike Logan, who is penciled in to supplant strong safety Lee Flowers. Flowers had surgery on his left knee in December.

Brent Alexander helped stabilize the secondary after moving from strong safety, where he started the previous two seasons for Carolina, to free safety. Scott Shields, who had thumb surgery in November, is also in the mix.

*Kordell Stewart*

**Special Teams** A seventh-round draft choice two years ago, kicker Kris Brown struggled with his kickoffs but was consistent on field goals. He has made 84.7% of his attempts as a pro and has the leg to split the posts from 50-plus. Punter Josh Miller can really boom the ball. He clocked a 67-yarder last year and pinned 34 punts inside the 20. Hank Poteat, a third-round pick, took over kick and punt return duties as a rookie. Showing explosive ability, he had a 53-yard punt return for a TD and averaged 19.4 yards per kick return. The Steelers remain strong in both punt and kick coverage.

**Management** Kevin Colbert replaced Tom Donahoe as director of football operations last year after Cowher won a power struggle. Colbert's first draft would have been better had Burress played to his potential. Cowher and Colbert appear to work more in unison than did Cowher and Donahoe. If Hampton and Bell make immediate impacts, the Steelers will be in position to make a playoff run.

*—Ken Murray*

NFL (BURRESS); TOM PIDGEON/ALLSPORT

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

Receiver Plaxico Burress, the eighth pick in last year's draft, hadn't played up to expectations when a wrist injury ended his season prematurely. The offense needs his big-play ability.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Pittsburgh-Cleveland is always an event, but even more so now that the Browns have beaten the Steelers once in each of the last two years.

### KEY STAT

If Kordell Stewart plays as he did in the final five games last year—seven TDs, three picks and a 55.4% completion rate—Pittsburgh will be tough.

***Plaxico Burress***

### GLUE GUY

Jerome Bettis knows how to carry this team, and he appears to have lots of mileage left.

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Casey Hampton** NT, Texas
Self-starter is a classic fit for the Steelers inside.

2 **Kendrell Bell** LB, Georgia
Has a chance to become an impact player with his speed.

4 **Mathias Nkwenti** OT, Temple
Raw talent, but runs well and has room to grow.

5 **Chukky Okobi** C, Purdue
Powerful lower body, but lacks height.

6 **Rodney Bailey** DE, Ohio State
Not strong enough inside or quick enough outside.

6 **Roger Knight** LB, Wisconsin
Plays quick, but his lack of size will hurt.

7 **Chris Taylor** WR, Texas A&M
Has exceptional speed and can return kicks and punts.

The Steelers needed to plug some holes on defense and got two potential impact players in Hampton and Bell. Hampton is a house on the D-line at 320 pounds. He's not a pass rusher, but that's not why the Steelers drafted him. It will take several blockers to budge him on running plays. Bell is the best overall athlete among Pittsburgh's draftees, and he has a huge upside. The Steelers improved their depth on the offensive line, a necessary move if Jerome Bettis is to remain among league rushing leaders on the back end of his career. Pittsburgh also took a flyer on a seventh-round long shot (Taylor) who will be the fastest man on the roster.

# Cleveland BROWNS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | Couch needs more weapons to fly. | 6 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | It's basically a war of attrition. | 1 |
| **RECEIVERS:** | Still in search of a genuine deep threat. | 4 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | Verba and Oben give the line a fighting chance. | 4 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | Warren and Smith will be harder to run against. | 6 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | Rudd rejoins his former Vikings coach, Foge Fazio. | 5 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | Third downs are a glaring weakness. | 4 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | Gardocki launched an NFL-high 108 punts. | 5 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | Hasn't distinguished itself yet. | 4 |
| **OVERALL:** | Butch Davis is expected to jump-start franchise. | 4 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**5th in AFC Central**

## BROWNS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Butch Davis (1st year with Cleveland)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Tim Couch | 137-215, 1,483 yds, 7 TDs |
| RB | Errict Rhett | 71 car, 258 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Aaron Shea | 30 rec, 302 yds, 2 TDs |
| TE | Rickey Dudley (OAK) | 29 rec, 350 yds, 4 TDs |
| WR | Kevin Johnson | 57 rec, 669 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Dennis Northcutt | 39 rec, 422 yds, 0 TDs |
| LT | Roman Oben | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Jim Pyne | 2 games, 2 starts |
| C | Dave Wohlabaugh | 12 games, 12 starts |
| RG | Everett Lindsay | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Ross Verba (GB) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Keith McKenzie | 58 tackles, 8 sacks |
| DT | Mark Smith (ARI) | 33 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DT | Gerard Warren (R) | 76 tackles, 4 sacks* |
| DE | Courtney Brown | 69 tackles, 4.5 sacks |
| LB | Jamir Miller | 85 tackles, 5 sacks |
| LB | Wali Rainer | 119 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Dwayne Rudd (MIN) | 69 tackles, 0 sacks |
| CB | Corey Fuller | 41 tackles, 3 INTs |
| CB | Daylon McCutcheon | 60 tackles, 1 INT |
| SS | Marquis Smith | 84 tackles, 1 sack |
| FS | Percy Ellsworth | 66 tackles, 1 INT |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Phil Dawson | 17-17 XPs, 14-17 FGs |
| P | Chris Gardocki | 108 punts, 45.5 avg |
| KR | Jamel White | 43 KR, 21.7 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Dennis Northcutt | 27 PR, 10.7 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Bruce Arians, offensive coordinator; Phil Banko, def. asst.; Todd Bowles, def. asst.; Kevin Butler, LBs; Foge Fazio, defensive coordinator; Steve Hagen, TEs; Ray Hamilton, DL; Tim Jorgensen, strength and conditioning; Todd McNair, RBs; Chuck Pagano, DBs; Rob Phillips, asst. strength and conditioning; Terry Robiskie, WRs; Jerry Rosburg, special teams; Carl Smith, QBs; Larry Zierlein, OL

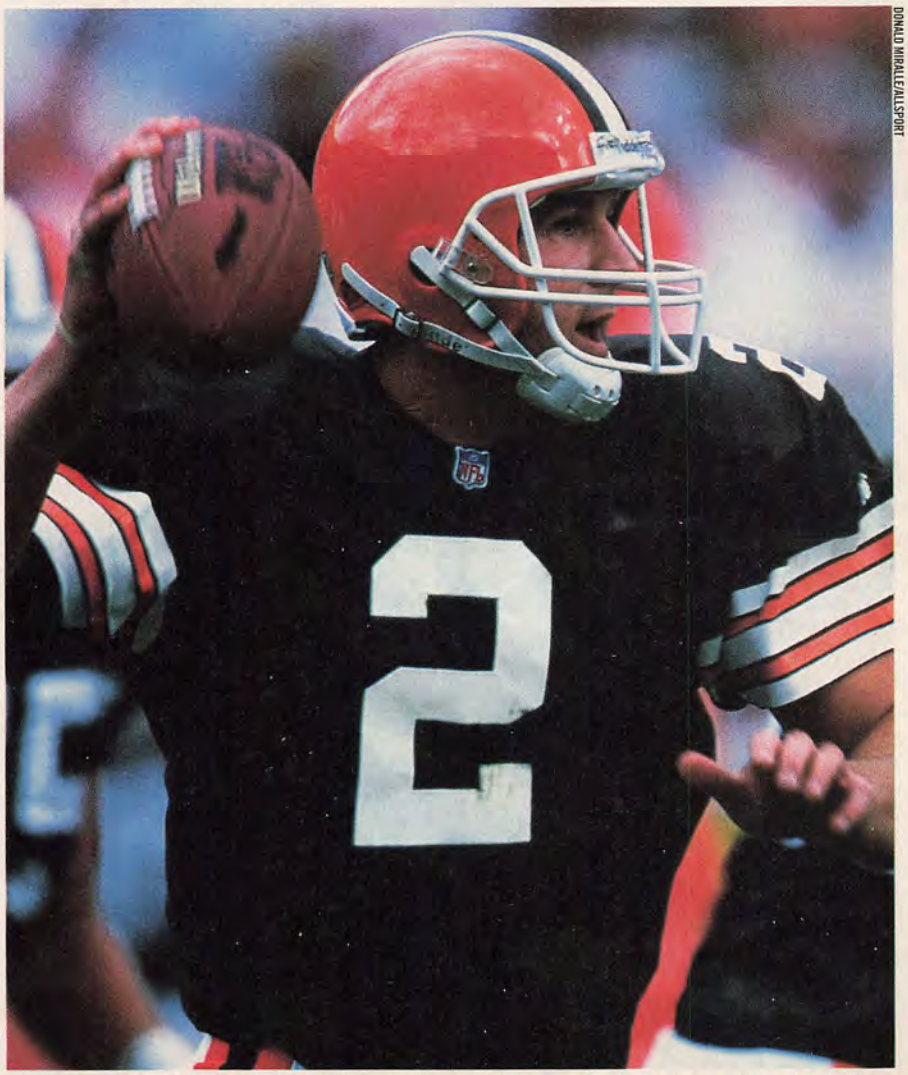
# Nowhere to go but up with Couch back at QB

There was a hopelessness to the Browns' 2000 season once they lost quarterback Tim Couch after seven games. The snowball became an avalanche, and in the end, it buried coach Chris Palmer. In the second year of their rebirth, the Browns lost eight games by 20 points or more and were outscored 419-161. They scored an NFL-low 17 touchdowns and gave up 46. The offense was a shambles, and the defense couldn't begin to carry the burden.

Now they start over with Butch Davis, the former University of Miami coach, who arrives with a five-year contract and a considerably larger voice in personnel matters than Palmer. After having 24 draft picks the first two years, the Browns had just eight this year. But they were active in free agency, looking not just for starters, but backups as well.

After going 2-14 and 3-13, the Browns finally should see some progress this season, assuming Couch stays healthy for more than seven games.

**Quarterbacks** How important is Couch to this team? When he fractured



DONALD MIRALLE/ALLSPORT

***Couch's return from a fractured thumb should put some life back into a dismal offense.***

his right thumb on Oct. 19 in practice and went on injured reserve, the offense went with him. The Browns did not score a touchdown in the next three games and produced only five offensive TDs in their final nine. Couch made the Browns' one-dimensional attack competitive; Doug Pederson and Spergon Wynn could not begin to make the offense go. Veteran backup Ty Detmer was lost for the season to a right Achilles injury suffered in the preseason.

In 21 career starts (he's 4-17), Couch has thrown 22 TDs and 22 INTs. That's not bad for an inexperienced QB on an expansion team that hasn't had a running game from Day 1. At the point he hurt his thumb last season, his completion percentage of 63.7 ranked fifth in the NFL. He had a 316-yard passing game in a September win over Pittsburgh. Give Couch some more playmakers and he'll be just fine.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Pittsburgh | 8:30 |
| Sept. 23 | DETROIT | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at Jacksonville | 4:15 |
| Oct. 7 | SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at Cincinnati | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | BALTIMORE | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 4 | at Chicago | 1:00 |
| Nov. 11 | PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | at Baltimore | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | TENNESSEE | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | at New England | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | JACKSONVILLE | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Green Bay | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Tennessee | 1:00 |

CLEVELAND BROWNS STADIUM (73,300)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

3-13, 6th in AFC CENTRAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | JACKSONVILLE | L, 7-27 |
| Sept. 10 | at Cincinnati | W, 24-7 |
| Sept. 17 | PITTSBURGH | W, 23-20 |
| Sept. 24 | at Oakland | L, 10-36 |
| Oct. 1 | BALTIMORE | L, 0-12 |
| Oct. 8 | at Arizona | L, 21-29 |
| Oct. 15 | at Denver | L, 10-44 |
| Oct. 22 | at Pittsburgh | L, 0-22 |
| Oct. 29 | CINCINNATI | L, 3-12 |
| Nov. 5 | NEW YORK GIANTS | L, 3-24 |
| Nov. 12 | NEW ENGLAND | W, 19-11 |
| Nov. 19 | at Tennessee | L, 10-24 |
| Nov. 26 | at Baltimore | L, 7-44 |
| Dec. 3 | at Jacksonville | L, 0-48 |
| Dec. 10 | PHILADELPHIA | L, 24-35 |
| Dec. 17 | TENNESSEE | L, 0-24 |

**Running Backs** When veteran Errict Rhett's season ended after five games with a foot injury, the Browns had no fallback. The starter by default became rookie Travis Prentice, a third-round pick, and it was a struggle. Prentice averaged 3.0 yards per carry and scored seven TDs; the team finished 30th in rushing offense (67.8 ypg).

In the off-season, the Browns signed Curtis Enis, the first running back taken in the 1998 draft. But Enis didn't make it to training camp before a degenerative condition in his left knee forced his retirement at age 24. That put the position in more turmoil.

The Browns drafted Miami's James Jackson in the third round, but he is not the answer by himself. It looks like the Browns will have a running back by committee this year, unless they make a trade before the season.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Kevin Johnson led the team in receptions and yards for the second straight year, but was not as effective as he had been as a rookie. His average catch dropped off from 14.9 yards to 11.7, and he didn't have a TD (he had eight as a rookie). What he needed was a threat on the other side. Toward that end, the Browns used their second-round pick on playmaker Quincy Morgan of Kansas State.

Dennis Northcutt, last year's second-round pick, ranked fourth among rookie receivers with 39 catches, but he had a problem with drops that must be rectified. Northcutt also returns punts.

Davis wants to run a two-tight-end offense, and to facilitate that option, the Browns signed Rickey Dudley, an unre-

## 2000 BROWNS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 220.6 (31) | 67.8 (30) | 152.8 (30) | 10.1 (31) | 7 (26t) | 9 (30) | 3.2 (30) | 9.8 (31) | 40 (18) | 176 (31) | 27.6 (31) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 352.7 (26) | 156.6 (29) | 196.1 (12) | 26.2 (27) | 26 (30) | 18 (11t) | 4.2 (18t) | 13.0 (27) | 42 (12t) | 12 (25t) | -3 (19) |

## 2001 BROWNS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Couch, Tim | 6'4" | 227 | 24 | 3 | Kentucky |
| 11 | Detmer, Ty | 6'0" | 194 | 33 | 10 | BYU |
| 10 | Holcomb, Kelly | 6'2" | 212 | 28 | 5 | Middle Tenn. St. |
| 16 | Thompson, Kevin | 6'5" | 236 | 24 | 2 | Penn State |
| 13 | Wynn, Spergon | 6'3" | 226 | 23 | 2 | SW Texas State |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 42 | Fair, Carl | 6'1" | 219 | 22 | R | UAB |
| 34 | Floyd, Chris (FB) | 6'2" | 235 | 26 | 4 | Michigan |
| 29 | Jackson, James | 5'10" | 209 | 25 | R | Miami |
| 41 | Prentice, Travis | 5'11" | 221 | 24 | 2 | Miami (Ohio) |
| 23 | Rhett, Errict | 5'11" | 211 | 30 | 8 | Florida |
| 47 | Spikes, Rahshon | 5'10" | 206 | 23 | R | N.C. State |
| 30 | White, Jamel | 5'9" | 208 | 24 | 2 | South Dakota |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 49 | Allamon, Kyle (TE) | 6'2" | 247 | 24 | 1 | Texas Tech |
| 89 | Brown, Bobby | 6'2" | 197 | 24 | 2 | Notre Dame |
| 83 | Campbell, Mark (TE) | 6'6" | 253 | 25 | 3 | Michigan |
| 15 | Carroll, Bo | 5'9" | 165 | 24 | R | Florida |
| 84 | Chiaverini, Darrin | 6'2" | 210 | 23 | 3 | Colorado |
| 88 | Dawson, JaJuan | 6'1" | 197 | 23 | 2 | Tulane |
| 82 | Dudley, Rickey (TE) | 6'6" | 255 | 29 | 6 | Ohio State |
| 81 | Jackson, Lenzie | 6'0" | 184 | 24 | 4 | Arizona State |
| 85 | Johnson, Kevin | 5'11" | 195 | 25 | 3 | Syracuse |
| 18 | King, Andre | 5'11" | 195 | 27 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 48 | Monroe, Rod (TE) | 6'4" | 245 | 26 | 1 | Cincinnati |
| 5 | Morgan, Quincy | 6'1" | 209 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 86 | Northcutt, Dennis | 5'11" | 175 | 23 | 2 | Arizona |
| 12 | O'Connor, Drew | 6'3" | 211 | 25 | 1 | Maine |
| 87 | Santiago, O.J. (TE) | 6'7" | 264 | 27 | 5 | Kent State |
| 44 | Sellers, Mike (TE) | 6'3" | 260 | 26 | 2 | Walla Walla CC |
| 80 | Shea, Aaron (TE) | 6'3" | 244 | 24 | 2 | Michigan |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 63 | Bedell, Brad (G) | 6'4" | 299 | 24 | 2 | Colorado |
| 65 | Bundren, Jim (C) | 6'3" | 303 | 26 | 3 | Clemson |
| 69 | Chanoine, Roger (T) | 6'4" | 295 | 25 | 2 | Temple |
| 74 | Clare, Mike (G) | 6'3" | 322 | 22 | R | Harvard |
| 79 | LaMontagne, Noel (G) | 6'4" | 301 | 24 | 2 | Virginia |
| 61 | Lindsay, Everett (G) | 6'4" | 302 | 30 | 8 | Mississippi |
| 66 | McKinney, Jeremy (T) | 6'6" | 301 | 25 | 1 | Iowa |
| 60 | O'Hara, Shaun (C) | 6'3" | 287 | 24 | 2 | Rutgers |
| 72 | Oben, Roman (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 28 | 6 | Louisville |
| 71 | Pyne, Jim (G) | 6'2" | 297 | 29 | 8 | Virginia Tech |
| 77 | Verba, Ross (T) | 6'4" | 308 | 27 | 5 | Iowa |
| 64 | Wohlabaugh, Dave (C) | 6'3" | 292 | 29 | 7 | Syracuse |
| 75 | Zahursky, Steve (G) | 6'6" | 305 | 24 | 3 | Kent State |
| 67 | Zukauskas, Paul (G) | 6'5" | 306 | 22 | R | Boston College |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 92 | Brown, Courtney (E) | 6'4" | 266 | 23 | 2 | Penn State |
| 62 | Caldwell, Cecil (T) | 6'1" | 268 | 24 | R | South Carolina |
| 93 | Colinet, Stalin (E) | 6'6" | 288 | 27 | 5 | Boston College |
| 73 | Holland, Darius (T) | 6'5" | 330 | 27 | 7 | Colorado |
| 97 | Kuehl, Ryan (T) | 6'5" | 290 | 29 | 5 | Virginia |
| 68 | Linnear, Kerry (E) | 6'5" | 259 | 24 | R | UT A&M-Kingsville |
| 98 | Miller, Arnold (E) | 6'3" | 239 | 26 | 3 | LSU |
| 90 | McKenzie, Keith (E) | 6'3" | 273 | 27 | 6 | Ball State |
| 99 | Roye, Orpheus (E) | 6'4" | 288 | 27 | 6 | Florida State |
| 94 | Smith, Mark (T) | 6'4" | 294 | 27 | 5 | Auburn |
| 91 | Spriggs, Marcus (T) | 6'4" | 314 | 25 | 3 | Troy State |
| 96 | Thompson, Mike (T) | 6'4" | 296 | 29 | 5 | Wisconsin |
| 70 | Warren, Gerard (T) | 6'4" | 322 | 23 | R | Florida |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 53 | Abdullah, Rahim | 6'5" | 251 | 25 | 3 | Clemson |
| 52 | Boyer, Brant | 6'1" | 228 | 30 | 8 | Arizona |
| 54 | Burnett, Chester | 5'10" | 230 | 26 | 2 | Arizona |
| 56 | Harris, Anthony | 6'1" | 240 | 28 | 4 | Auburn |
| 51 | Jones, Lenoy | 6'1" | 235 | 26 | 6 | TCU |
| 95 | Miller, Jamir | 6'5" | 266 | 27 | 8 | UCLA |
| 55 | Moore, Marty | 6'1" | 245 | 30 | 8 | Kentucky |
| 56 | Pharms, Jeremiah | 6'1" | 255 | 23 | R | Washington |
| 58 | Rainer, Wali | 6'2" | 245 | 24 | 3 | Virginia |
| 78 | Rogers, Tyrone | 6'5" | 236 | 24 | 2 | Alabama State |
| 57 | Rudd, Dwayne | 6'2" | 237 | 25 | 5 | Alabama |
| 50 | Saleh, Tarek | 6'0" | 240 | 26 | 5 | Wisconsin |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28 | Barnes, Rashidi | 5'11" | 205 | 23 | 2 | Colorado |
| 27 | Chapman, Lamar | 6'0" | 186 | 24 | 2 | Kansas State |
| 39 | Davis, Brandon | 6'4" | 215 | 22 | R | Arkansas |
| 43 | Ellsworth, Percy | 6'2" | 225 | 26 | 6 | Virginia |
| 22 | Franz, Todd | 6'0" | 194 | 25 | 1 | Tulsa |
| 24 | Fuller, Corey | 5'10" | 205 | 30 | 7 | Florida State |
| 37 | Henry, Anthony | 6'0" | 198 | 24 | R | South Florida |
| 31 | Jackson, Raymond | 5'10" | 189 | 28 | 6 | Colorado State |
| 1 | Jameson, Michael | 5'11" | 186 | 22 | R | Texas A&M |
| 20 | Little, Earl | 6'0" | 198 | 28 | 4 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 26 | Malbrough, Anthony | 5'10" | 185 | 24 | 2 | Texas Tech |
| 33 | McCutcheon, Daylon | 5'10" | 180 | 24 | 3 | USC |
| 25 | Sanders, Lewis | 6'0" | 200 | 23 | 2 | Maryland |
| 21 | Smith, Marquis | 6'2" | 213 | 26 | 3 | California |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | Dawson, Phil (K) | 5'11" | 190 | 26 | 3 | Texas |
| 17 | Gardocki, Chris (P) | 6'1" | 200 | 31 | 11 | Clemson |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

The Browns' search for more big-play people brought them to WR Quincy Morgan in the draft. He could become a big gun and make Kevin Johnson more dangerous.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

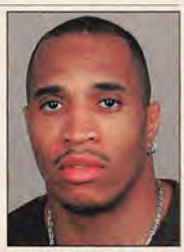
On Oct. 21, the new Browns host the old Browns, a.k.a. the Ravens. It's a big test for QB Tim Couch, who is 0-3 versus Baltimore.

### KEY STAT

Without an injured Couch in the second half, the Browns converted just 58 of 210 third downs (27.6%).

### GLUE GUY

The feisty Couch represents the future of the franchise. It's up to Butch Davis to bring it out of him now.



***Kevin Johnson***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

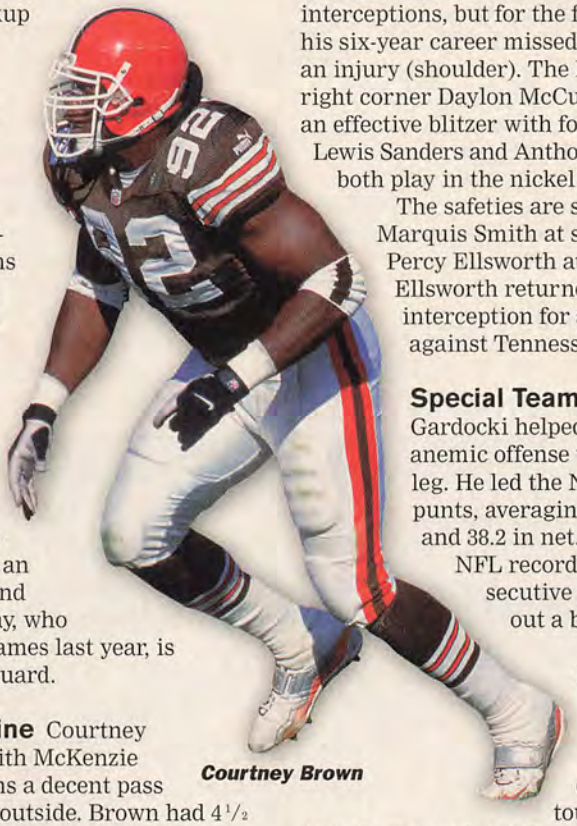
| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Gerard Warren | DT, Florida |
| | Power pass rusher who has a chance to dominate. | |
| 2 | Quincy Morgan | WR, Kansas State |
| | A fast, physical receiver who wants ball in the clutch. | |
| 3 | James Jackson | RB, Miami |
| | Capable back who spent two years behind Edgerrin James. | |
| 4 | Anthony Henry | DB, South Florida |
| | A big corner and hitter; was mostly a safety in college. | |
| 5 | Jeremiah Pharms | LB, Washington |
| | Too small to play DE, but has a LB's mentality. | |
| 6 | Michael Jameson | DB, Texas A&M |
| | Versatile safety who has the speed to play corner. | |
| 7 | Paul Zukauskus | G, Boston College |
| | Has a big body and should be strong and durable. | |
| 7 | Andre King | WR, Miami (Fla.) |
| | Former baseball player was third receiver at Miami. | |

**B−** The Browns passed on the top running backs to take Warren and immediately upgrade their run defense in a rush-oriented division. For the third straight year, the Browns took a wide receiver in the second round. Morgan has the burners to become Couch's go-to guy. Butch Davis couldn't resist taking two of his former Hurricane players in Jackson and King. Pharms could turn out to be an impact player, but he had legal issues at press time. In early May he pleaded innocent to a first-degree robbery charge stemming from a 2000 incident.

stricted free agent from Oakland. Dudley will team with Aaron Shea in what should be a strong tight end tandem.

**Offensive Line** The Browns are still recovering from the loss of right tackle Orlando Brown in the infamous official's penalty flag incident of 1999. They tried James Brown last year and he didn't work. This year, they signed free agent Ross Verba from Green Bay with the hope he can move to the right side. Verba, though, was out until August following back surgery, so Cleveland was talking with free agents, including Denver's Tony Jones.

Roman Oben, a free-agent pickup a year ago, is solid at left tackle. If Jim Pyne recovers from a knee injury that cost him 14 games last season, the Browns will be O.K. at left guard, too. If not, they'll need Steve Zahursky or Brad Bedell to develop quickly. Dave Wohlabaugh returns at center from an ankle injury, and Everett Lindsay, who played all 16 games last year, is back at right guard.



***Courtney Brown***

**Defensive Line** Courtney Brown and Keith McKenzie give the Browns a decent pass rush from the outside. Brown had 4½ sacks and a team-high 25 quarterback pressures as a rookie at left end. McKenzie had eight sacks for the third straight season and remains a force. Davis says he's going to flip-flop the two ends this year, depending on matchups.

The Browns made a strong move to upgrade their run defense inside, drafting Gerard Warren with the third pick and signing free agent Mark Smith. In a division dominated by running backs, that's a major step. With Darius Holland and Orpheus Roye, the Browns now have some depth. They also moved Stalin Colinet, a starter last year, to end.

**Linebackers** The Browns improved this unit by signing Dwayne Rudd to a five-year, $23 million contract to play the weak side, and Brant Boyer and Anthony Harris to add depth. Rudd played the strong side in Minnesota last year without any sacks, and he should prosper from the switch.

Jamir Miller returns on the strongside after making 85 tackles. Wali Rainer blossomed in the middle with a team-high 119 tackles. Marty Moore, who started nine games, along with ex-Jaguar Boyer supply quality depth.

**Defensive Backs** The Browns showed significant improvement in the back end by moving Corey Fuller from free safety to left corner, his natural position. Fuller responded with three interceptions, but for the first time in his six-year career missed a game with an injury (shoulder). The Browns found right corner Daylon McCutcheon to be an effective blitzer with four sacks. Lewis Sanders and Anthony Malbrough both play in the nickel package.

The safeties are set with Marquis Smith at strong and Percy Ellsworth at free. Ellsworth returned his only interception for a touchdown against Tennessee.

**Special Teams** Chris Gardocki helped offset an anemic offense with a strong leg. He led the NFL with 108 punts, averaging 45.5 overall and 38.2 in net. He holds the NFL record with 726 consecutive punts without a block.

Phil Dawson kicked almost as many field goals (14) as the offense scored touchdowns (16). He was 12 for 12 from inside 40 yards, only 2 for 5 beyond.

White and Northcutt are more than capable returning kicks and punts.

**Management** Team president Carmen Policy determined the Browns were headed nowhere with Palmer and made a difficult call when it was clear the team had no chance to win without Couch. Dwight Clark, the director of football operations, surrendered some clout with the arrival of Davis, but it's a situation that could work.

The Browns are still following their plan, but with a different on-field leader. A 5-27 record in two years wasn't enough progress to save Palmer.

*—Ken Murray*

NFL (JOHNSON); TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

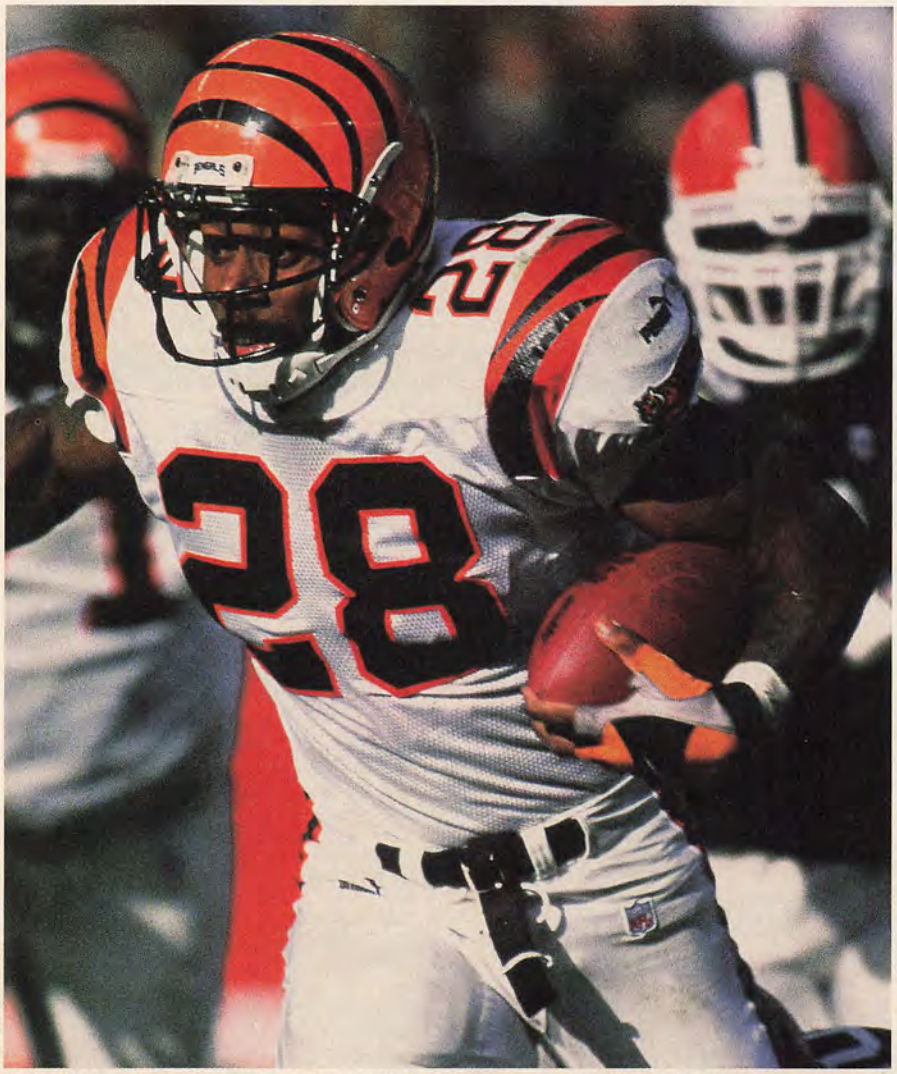
# Cincinnati BENGALS

# Top free agents bypass NFL's Bermuda Triangle

Since 1990, the Bengals have gone through four head coaches, seven Top 10 draft picks and nine losing seasons. It's no wonder the league's top free agents avoid Cincinnati, which has finished next-to-last or last in the AFC Central eight times the past 10 seasons.

The Bengals earned another high first-round pick—fourth overall—after last year's 4-12 implosion. That disaster saw coach Bruce Coslet walk out after three ugly defeats, and his successor, Dick LeBeau, take the team to a 4-9 record as interim coach. LeBeau was rewarded, so to speak, with the chance to do it again. Among his first moves was bringing in Bob Bratkowski as offensive coordinator and promoting Mark Duffner to defensive coordinator. But no matter who's coaching, the mountain of evidence suggests this will not be a quick turnaround.

**Quarterbacks** Akili Smith, the promising young talent who was the third pick of the 1999 draft, regressed last season, but it was not hard to understand why. With Darnay Scott's season-



JONATHAN DANIEL/ALLSPORT

***When LeBeau took over last year, Dillon became an even bigger part of the offense.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Akili Smith is bordering on bust; can Kitna help? | 4 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Dillon will earn his money in this offense. | 8 |
| **RECEIVERS:** Scott and Warrick are tantalizing playmakers. | 7 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** The addition of Webb makes everything shinier. | 4 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Justin Smith is a step in the right direction. | 4 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Strength of the defense, if Simmons is healthy. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** They managed only nine INTs in 2000. | 2 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** At least Cunningham is an upgrade. | 3 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** The Bengals just can't get it right. | 1 |
| **OVERALL:** This is the NFL's Bermuda Triangle. | 4 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**6th in AFC Central**

## BENGALS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dick LeBeau (4-9 with Cincinnati)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Jon Kitna (SEA) | 259-418, 2,658 yds, 18 TDs |
| RB | Corey Dillon | 315 car, 1,435 yds, 7 TDs |
| FB | Lorenzo Neal (TEN) | 1 car, -2 yds, 0 TDs |
| TE | Tony McGee | 26 rec, 309 yds, 1 TD |
| WR | Peter Warrick | 51 rec, 592 yds, 4 TDs |
| WR | Darnay Scott | DNP-INJURED |
| LT | Richmond Webb (MIA) | 14 games, 14 starts |
| LG | Matt O'Dwyer | 10 games, 10 starts |
| C | Rich Braham | 9 games, 9 starts |
| RG | Mike Goff | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Willie Anderson | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Vaughn Booker | 17 tackles, 0 sacks |
| DT | Oliver Gibson | 52 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DT | Tony Williams (MIN) | 33 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DE | Justin Smith (R) | 81 tackles, 11 sacks* |
| LB | Steve Foley | 43 tackles, 4 sacks |
| LB | Brian Simmons | 9 tackles, 1 sack |
| LB | Takeo Spikes | 128 tackles, 2 sacks |
| CB | Tom Carter | 43 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Mark Roman | 16 tackles, 0 INTs |
| SS | Chris Carter | 60 tackles, 1 INT |
| FS | Darryl Williams | 101 tackles, 1 INT |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Richie Cunningham (CAR) | 9-9 XPs, 5-7 FGs |
| P | Daniel Pope | 94 punts, 40.2 avg |
| KR | Tremain Mack | 50 KR, 20.7 avg, 0 TDs |
| PR | Craig Yeast | 34 PR, 6.6 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Paul Alexander, OL; Jim Anderson, RBs; Ken Anderson, QBs; Bob Bratkowski, offensive coordinator; Lou Cioffi, def. asst.; Kevin Coyle, CBs; Mark Duffner, defensive coordinator/LBs; John Garrett, off. asst.; Ray Horton, safeties; Tim Krumie, DL; Steve Mooshagian, WRs; Al Roberts, special teams; Frank Verducci, TEs; Kim Wood, strength and conditioning

ending broken leg and the release of Carl Pickens, Smith was left with an inexperienced and raw set of receivers. The result was the most anemic passing game in the NFL and an aborted year for the team's quarterback of the future.

In 11 starts, Smith threw for only three touchdowns and had a completion percentage of 44.2. The team averaged just 121.6 passing yards per game, worst in the NFL, and totaled just six TD passes. Smith won two games; his replacement, Scott Mitchell, also won two.

LeBeau brought in Bratkowski, a former coordinator in Seattle, to run his offense, and then the Bengals signed Seahawks castoff Jon Kitna to challenge Smith in training camp. Kitna went 18-15 in 33 regular-season starts for Seattle, but was let go after throwing 19 INTs last year.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Tennessee | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | BALTIMORE | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at San Diego | 4:15 |
| Oct. 7 | at Pittsburgh | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | CHICAGO | 1:00 |
| Oct. 28 | at Detroit | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 11 | at Jacksonville | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | TENNESSEE | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | at Cleveland | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | JACKSONVILLE | 1:00 |
| Dec. 16 | at New York Jets | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Baltimore | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |

PAUL BROWN STADIUM (65,600)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

**4-12, 5th in AFC CENTRAL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 10 | CLEVELAND | L, 7-24 |
| Sept. 17 | at Jacksonville | L, 0-13 |
| Sept. 24 | at Baltimore | L, 0-37 |
| Oct. 1 | MIAMI | L, 16-31 |
| Oct. 8 | TENNESSEE | L, 14-23 |
| Oct. 15 | at Pittsburgh | L, 0-15 |
| Oct. 22 | DENVER | W, 31-21 |
| Oct. 29 | at Cleveland | W, 12-3 |
| Nov. 5 | BALTIMORE | L, 7-27 |
| Nov. 12 | at Dallas | L, 6-23 |
| Nov. 19 | at New England | L, 13-16 |
| Nov. 26 | PITTSBURGH | L, 28-48 |
| Dec. 3 | ARIZONA | W, 24-13 |
| Dec. 10 | at Tennessee | L, 3-35 |
| Dec. 17 | JACKSONVILLE | W, 17-14 |
| Dec. 24 | at Philadelphia | L, 7-16 |

**Running Backs** Corey Dillon *was* the Bengals' offense in 2000, especially after Coslet left. LeBeau increased Dillon's workload by more than six carries a game, and the Bengals became a run-dominated team. Dillon crushed Denver for a league-record 278 rushing yards on only 22 carries in October and had a 216-yard effort against Arizona in December.

Sure, Dillon can be explosive. He had 12 runs of 20 yards or longer, including an 80-yard touchdown run. But he also can be enigmatic. He was swallowed whole by Baltimore's vaunted defense early in the year—Coslet's last game—and in the off-season was hiring and firing agents in an attempt to leave town. But as a transition player his options were limited, and he wound up signing a five-year deal for a reported $32 million. The Bengals had hedged against a Dillon-less future by drafting Auburn's Rudi Johnson.

Fullback Nick Williams blew out a knee and is unlikely to play this year, but the Bengals upgraded by signing Lorenzo Neal, Eddie George's former blocker. Dillon liked that move.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Cincinnati has a lot of potential here. If Scott makes it all the way back from a fractured tibia and fibula, there's a proven level of production as well. Scott, who had 34 TD receptions his first six NFL seasons, can take some double teams off Peter Warrick, last year's No. 1. Warrick's rookie season alternated between spectacular catch and clumsy drop. He led the Bengals with 51 grabs and became the first player in club history to score a touchdown on a reception, a rush and a return (punt) in the same season. Look for the explosive playmaker to make more strides in his sophomore run.

Because Bratkowski wants to run more three-receiver sets, the Bengals drafted two wideouts, including Chad Johnson of Oregon State. Ron Dugans

## 2000 BENGALS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 266.3 (29) | 144.6 (3) | 121.6 (31) | 11.6 (30) | 13 (17t) | 6 (31) | 4.7 (4t) | 10.7 (26) | 52 (25) | 254 (26) | 33.9 (25) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 342.9 (22) | 120.3 (24) | 222.6 (23) | 22.4 (21) | 12 (12t) | 26 (27t) | 3.8 (7) | 11.7 (21) | 26 (29t) | 9 (30) | -14 (28t) |

## 2001 BENGALS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | Covington, Scott | 6'2" | 217 | 25 | 3 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 3 | Kitna, Jon | 6'2" | 217 | 28 | 5 | Central Wash. |
| 19 | Mitchell, Scott | 6'6" | 240 | 33 | 12 | Utah |
| 11 | Smith, Akili | 6'3" | 220 | 26 | 3 | Oregon |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 | Basnight, Michael | 6'1" | 235 | 23 | 2 | N. Carolina A&T |
| 36 | Bennett, Brandon | 5'11" | 220 | 28 | 3 | South Carolina |
| 38 | Brown, Ricky (FB) | 5'10" | 225 | 24 | R | Texas |
| 28 | Dillon, Corey | 6'1" | 225 | 25 | 5 | Washington |
| 46 | Groce, Clif (FB) | 5'11" | 245 | 29 | 5 | Texas A&M |
| 32 | Johnson, Rudi | 5'10" | 230 | 21 | R | Auburn |
| 29 | Keaton, Curtis | 5'10" | 212 | 24 | 2 | James Madison |
| 41 | Neal, Lorenzo (FB) | 5'11" | 240 | 30 | 9 | Fresno State |
| 30 | Williams, Nick (FB) | 6'2" | 267 | 24 | 3 | Miami (Fla.) |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 89 | Battaglia, Marco (TE) | 6'3" | 252 | 28 | 6 | Rutgers |
| 12 | Boyd, LaVell | 6'3" | 215 | 24 | 1 | Louisville |
| 49 | Brewer, Sean (TE) | 6'4" | 255 | 23 | R | San Jose St. |
| 81 | Dugans, Ron | 6'2" | 205 | 24 | 2 | Florida State |
| 83 | Farmer, Danny | 6'3" | 217 | 24 | 2 | UCLA |
| 47 | Gavadza, Jason (TE) | 6'3" | 245 | 25 | 1 | Kent State |
| 87 | Griffin, Damon | 5'9" | 186 | 25 | 3 | Oregon |
| 16 | Houshmandzadeh, T.J. | 6'1" | 200 | 23 | R | Oregon State |
| 85 | Johnson, Chad | 6'1" | 192 | 23 | R | Oregon State |
| 82 | McGee, Tony (TE) | 6'4" | 248 | 30 | 9 | Michigan |
| 9 | North, Ramando | 5'11" | 174 | 24 | R | N. Carolina A&T |
| 18 | Plummer, Chad | 6'3" | 218 | 25 | 2 | Cincinnati |
| 86 | Scott, Darnay | 6'1" | 204 | 29 | 7 | San Diego St. |
| 48 | St. Louis, Brad (TE) | 6'3" | 246 | 25 | 2 | SW Missouri St. |
| 80 | Warrick, Peter | 5'11" | 195 | 24 | 2 | Florida State |
| 84 | Yeast, Craig | 5'7" | 165 | 24 | 3 | Kentucky |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 71 | Anderson, Willie (T) | 6'5" | 340 | 26 | 6 | Auburn |
| 74 | Braham, Rich (C) | 6'4" | 305 | 30 | 8 | West Virginia |
| 61 | Byrd, Anthony (G) | 6'5" | 295 | 24 | R | Louisville |
| 76 | Doughty, Mike (T) | 6'7" | 305 | 26 | 2 | Notre Dame |
| 63 | Goff, Mike (G) | 6'5" | 316 | 25 | 4 | Iowa |
| 62 | Gutierrez, Brock (C) | 6'3" | 304 | 27 | 5 | Central Mich. |
| 65 | Jackson, John (T) | 6'6" | 297 | 36 | 14 | E. Kentucky |
| 60 | Jones, Rod (T) | 6'4" | 330 | 27 | 6 | Kansas |
| 77 | Leyva, Victor (G) | 6'3" | 320 | 23 | R | Arizona St. |
| 72 | O'Dwyer, Matt (G) | 6'5" | 308 | 29 | 7 | Northwestern |
| 79 | Rehberg, Scott (G) | 6'8" | 330 | 27 | 5 | Central Mich. |
| 64 | Roesler, Roger (C) | 6'5" | 315 | 23 | 1 | Texas |
| 75 | Stephens, Jamain (T) | 6'6" | 335 | 27 | 6 | N. Carolina A&T |
| 73 | Webb, Richmond (T) | 6'6" | 320 | 34 | 12 | Texas A&M |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 93 | Barndt, Tom (T) | 6'3" | 300 | 29 | 6 | Pittsburgh |
| 96 | Booker, Vaughn (E) | 6'5" | 300 | 33 | 8 | Cincinnati |
| 67 | Boyle, Jeff (T) | 6'1" | 297 | 23 | R | Wyoming |
| 99 | Gibson, Oliver (T) | 6'2" | 315 | 29 | 7 | Notre Dame |
| 97 | Henry, Kevin (E) | 6'4" | 285 | 32 | 9 | Mississippi St. |
| 94 | Langford, Jevon (E) | 6'3" | 290 | 27 | 6 | Oklahoma St. |
| 90 | Smith, Justin (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 21 | R | Missouri |
| 70 | Steele, Glen (T) | 6'4" | 300 | 27 | 4 | Michigan |
| 91 | Williams, Tony (T) | 6'1" | 292 | 26 | 5 | Memphis |
| 55 | Wilson, Reinard (E) | 6'2" | 266 | 27 | 5 | Florida State |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 53 | Edmondson, Chris | 6'3" | 250 | 23 | R | West Virginia |
| 95 | Foley, Steve | 6'3" | 260 | 26 | 4 | La.-Monroe |
| 52 | Harris, Rashad | 6'1" | 236 | 21 | R | Louisville |
| 50 | Johnson, Riall | 6'3" | 243 | 23 | R | Stanford |
| 54 | Pettijohn, Duke | 6'1" | 256 | 24 | R | Syracuse |
| 57 | Ross, Adrian | 6'2" | 250 | 26 | 4 | Colorado State |
| 58 | Shakir, Kamal | 6'0" | 234 | 22 | R | Memphis |
| 56 | Simmons, Brian | 6'3" | 248 | 26 | 4 | North Carolina |
| 59 | Spearman, Armegis | 6'1" | 254 | 23 | 2 | Mississippi |
| 51 | Spikes, Takeo | 6'2" | 243 | 25 | 4 | Auburn |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 33 | Armour, JoJuan | 5'11" | 220 | 25 | 3 | Miami (Ohio) |
| 23 | Bean, Robert | 5'11" | 178 | 23 | 2 | Mississippi St. |
| 37 | Bryant, Kenny | 5'11" | 188 | 23 | R | Jackson State |
| 42 | Carter, Chris | 6'2" | 210 | 26 | 5 | Texas |
| 21 | Carter, Tom | 6'0" | 190 | 28 | 9 | Notre Dame |
| 26 | Hall, Cory | 6'0" | 210 | 24 | 3 | Fresno State |
| 27 | Hawkins, Artrell | 5'10" | 190 | 25 | 4 | Cincinnati |
| 22 | Heath, Rodney | 5'10" | 175 | 26 | 3 | Minnesota |
| 39 | Lee, Jared | 5'11" | 202 | 24 | R | BYU |
| 34 | Mack, Tremain | 6'0" | 193 | 26 | 5 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 20 | Roman, Mark | 5'11" | 188 | 24 | 2 | LSU |
| 24 | Thompkins, Gary | 5'11" | 200 | 24 | R | West Virginia |
| 31 | Williams, Darryl | 6'0" | 202 | 31 | 10 | Miami (Fla.) |

### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | Cunningham, Richie (K) | 5'10" | 167 | 31 | 4 | La.-Lafayette |
| 10 | McCullough, Kent (P) | 6'1" | 212 | 23 | R | Miami (Ohio) |
| 13 | Pope, Daniel (P) | 5'10" | 203 | 26 | 3 | Alabama |
| 5 | Rackers, Neil (K) | 6'0" | 205 | 25 | 2 | Illinois |

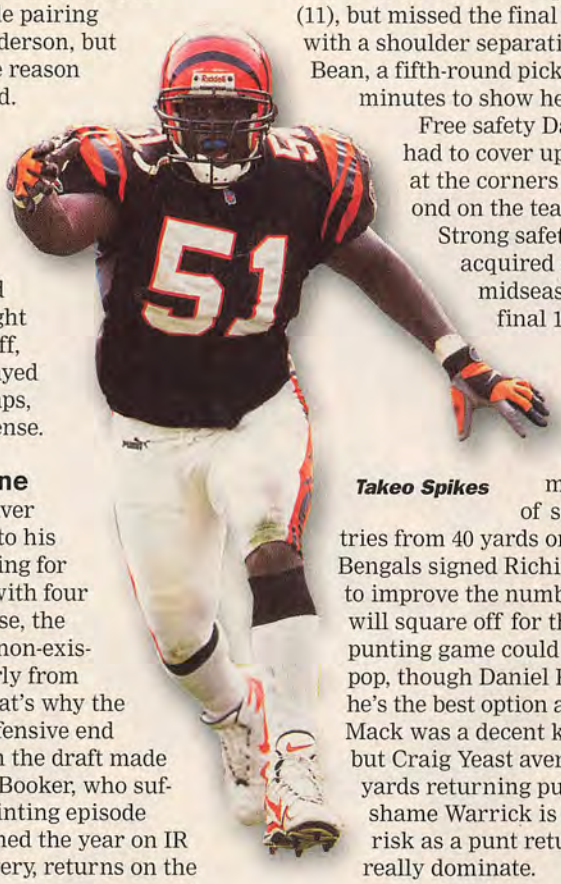
and Danny Farmer are also in the mix.

The Bengals also drafted a speedy but underachieving tight end, Sean Brewer, to compete with veterans Tony McGee and Marco Battaglia.

**Offensive Line** The NFL's third-best running game wasn't enough to make up for the worst passing attack. The Bengals' line provided excellent run-blocking, but was not so stout in pass protection, especially against the blitz. Cincinnati QBs were sacked 52 times.

Enter Richmond Webb. A seven-time Pro Bowler with Miami, Webb signed with the Bengals for three years at $3 mil per when it was clear the Dolphins could no longer afford him. Webb is now a strength where weakness had existed. He'll not only make a smashing tackle pairing with Willie Anderson, but was part of the reason Dillon re-signed.

In the interior line, guard Matt O'Dwyer and center Rich Braham were hampered by injuries. Right guard Mike Goff, meanwhile, played 991 of 1,001 snaps, tops on the offense.



*Takeo Spikes*

**Defensive Line** Only tackle Oliver Gibson played to his capabilities, tying for the team lead with four sacks. Otherwise, the pass rush was non-existent, particularly from the outside. That's why the selection of defensive end Justin Smith in the draft made sense. Vaughn Booker, who suffered from a fainting episode early and finished the year on IR after knee surgery, returns on the other side.

The Bengals signed free-agent tackle Tony Williams to join Gibson inside. Tom Barndt, who was ineffective after tearing a chest muscle in training camp, is also back at tackle. John Copeland, a former No. 1 draft pick, was cut in the off-season.

**Linebackers** Losing middle linebacker Brian Simmons to a season-ending knee injury in the opener was a crushing blow. In his place, the Bengals used several players and found a reliable contributor in Armegis Spearman.

On the outside, Takeo Spikes had the best production of any linebacker with 128 tackles (112 solo), two picks and two sacks. He is this defense's soul. Steve Foley is adequate on the left side.

**Defensive Backs** The Bengals had a revolving door at cornerback, starting five different players at the two spots. They developed depth, but not a shutdown corner. They cut veteran Tom Carter for salary-cap purposes, then re-signed him to a one-year deal. Mark Roman, their second-round pick a year ago, showed potential starting at left corner in the last two games.

Rodney Heath and Artrell Hawkins had their turns on the right side. Heath tied for the team lead in passes defensed (11), but missed the final three games with a shoulder separation. Robert Bean, a fifth-round pick, used limited minutes to show he can play.

Free safety Darryl Williams had to cover up for mistakes at the corners and was second on the team in tackles.

Strong safety Chris Carter, acquired on waivers in midseason, started the final 10 games.

**Special Teams** After Neil Rackers made only two of seven field goal tries from 40 yards or deeper, the Bengals signed Richie Cunningham to improve the numbers. Those two will square off for the job. The punting game could also use some pop, though Daniel Pope looks like he's the best option again. Tremain Mack was a decent kick returner, but Craig Yeast averaged only 6.6 yards returning punts. It's a shame Warrick is too valuable to risk as a punt returner. He could really dominate.

**Management** Despite having the most room under the salary cap of any team, the Bengals struck out on several top-level free agents. Though they landed Webb, offensive tackle Todd Steussie, defensive end Kenny Holmes, QB Elvis Grbac and others weren't interested.

They need to hit bigger with their high draft picks, too. Until they do better in the draft and free agency, president/general manager Mike Brown will continue to take heat.

*—Ken Murray*

NFL (SCOTT); DAVID DUROCHIK/SPORTPICS

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

A healthy Darnay Scott at wide receiver should help restore the big play in the Bengals' passing game and reduce double teams on Peter Warrick. Scott missed 2000 with a broken leg.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

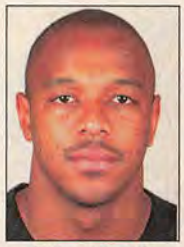
Bears at Bengals on Oct. 21 may be the Battle of the QB Busts–Cincy's Akili Smith, the third pick in the 1999 draft, versus Chicago's Cade McNown, the 12th selection that year.

### KEY STAT

The Bengals collected only 26 sacks and nine INTs last year, both second fewest in the NFL.

### GLUE GUY

Newly-signed RB Corey Dillon has to be the centerpiece of whatever revitalization the Bengals can achieve.



*Darnay Scott*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Justin Smith** DE, Missouri
Gives Bengals a badly-needed pass rusher off the edge.

2 **Chad Johnson** WR, Oregon State
Great athlete with the potential to be an impact player.

3 **Sean Brewer** TE, San Jose State
An underachiever whose speed was the main attaction.

4 **Rudi Johnson** RB, Auburn
Good second-effort runner was SEC Player of the Year.

5 **Victor Leyva** G, Arizona State
Interior line player with a wide body.

6 **Riall Johnson** LB, Stanford
Primary role at Stanford as DE-LB was to rush passer.

7 **T.J. Houshmanozaden** WR, Oregon State
Big, physical receiver who returns kicks and punts.

The Bengals had a strong preference for Johnsons in the draft—they took three—but chose just one Houshmanozaden. The guy who needs to make the biggest impact, though, is Smith. He has all the tools to tear up opposing offensive tackles. Chad Johnson could see a lot of time in three-wide-receiver sets, and down the road could move into a starting spot opposite Peter Warrick. Rudi Johnson was an insurance policy if Corey Dillon didn't come to contract terms. The Bengals didn't need another tight end, but they did need a lot of help on the offensive line. Signing Richmond Webb filled one gaping hole, but Leyva isn't ready to fill another yet.

# Oakland RAIDERS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Gannon's dangerous with arm, legs and mind. | 7.5 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Garner and Wheatley can churn it up. | 8 |
| **RECEIVERS:** Hall of Famer in Tim Brown; little else. | 7 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Big and solid, they're plows in the run game. | 9 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Armstrong will help, but Russell must produce. | 7 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** Group lacks depth, but boy can Thomas cover. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Corners are solid, safeties are not. | 7 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Janikowski's powerful, but must be consistent. | 6 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** What's not to like about Gruden and the scowl? | 9 |
| **OVERALL:** Championship game loss left bitter taste. | 7.5 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**1st in AFC West**

## RAIDERS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Jon Gruden (29-21 with Oakland)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Rich Gannon | 284-473, 3,430 yds, 28 TDs |
| RB | Charlie Garner (SF) | 258 car, 1,142 yds, 7 TDs |
| FB | Jon Ritchie | 26 rec, 173 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Tim Brown | 76 rec, 1,128 yds, 11 TDs |
| WR | James Jett | 20 rec, 356 yds, 2 TDs |
| TE | Roland Williams (STL) | 11 rec, 102 yds, 3 TDs |
| LT | Barry Sims | 16 games, 8 starts |
| LG | Steve Wisniewski | 16 games, 16 starts |
| C | Barret Robbins | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Frank Middleton (TB) | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Lincoln Kennedy | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Tony Bryant | 38 tackles, 5.5 sacks |
| DT | Darrell Russell | 34 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DT | Grady Jackson | 68 tackles, 8 sacks |
| DE | Trace Armstrong (MIA) | 34 tackles, 16.5 sacks |
| LB | Elijah Alexander | 67 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Greg Biekert | 134 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | William Thomas | 78 tackles, 6 INTs |
| CB | Eric Allen | 68 tackles, 6 INTs |
| CB | Charles Woodson | 79 tackles, 4 INTs |
| SS | Marquez Pope | 80 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Anthony Dorsett | 72 tackles, 1 sack |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Sebastian Janikowski | 46-46 XPs, 22-32 FGs |
| P | Shane Lechler | 65 punts, 45.9 avg |
| KR | David Dunn | 44 KR, 24.4 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | Reggie Barlow (JAX) | 29 PR, 6.9 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Fred Biletnikoff, WRs; Chuck Bresnahan, defensive coordinator; Bill Callahan, offensive coordinator/OL; Bob Casullo, special teams; Jim Erkenbeck, TEs; Garrett Giemont, strength and conditioning; Woodrow Lowe, def. asst; Ron Lynn, DBs; Don Martin, def. asst.; John Morton, off. asst.; Fred Pagac, LBs; Skip Peete, RBs; David Shaw, QBs; Mark Waufle, defensive line

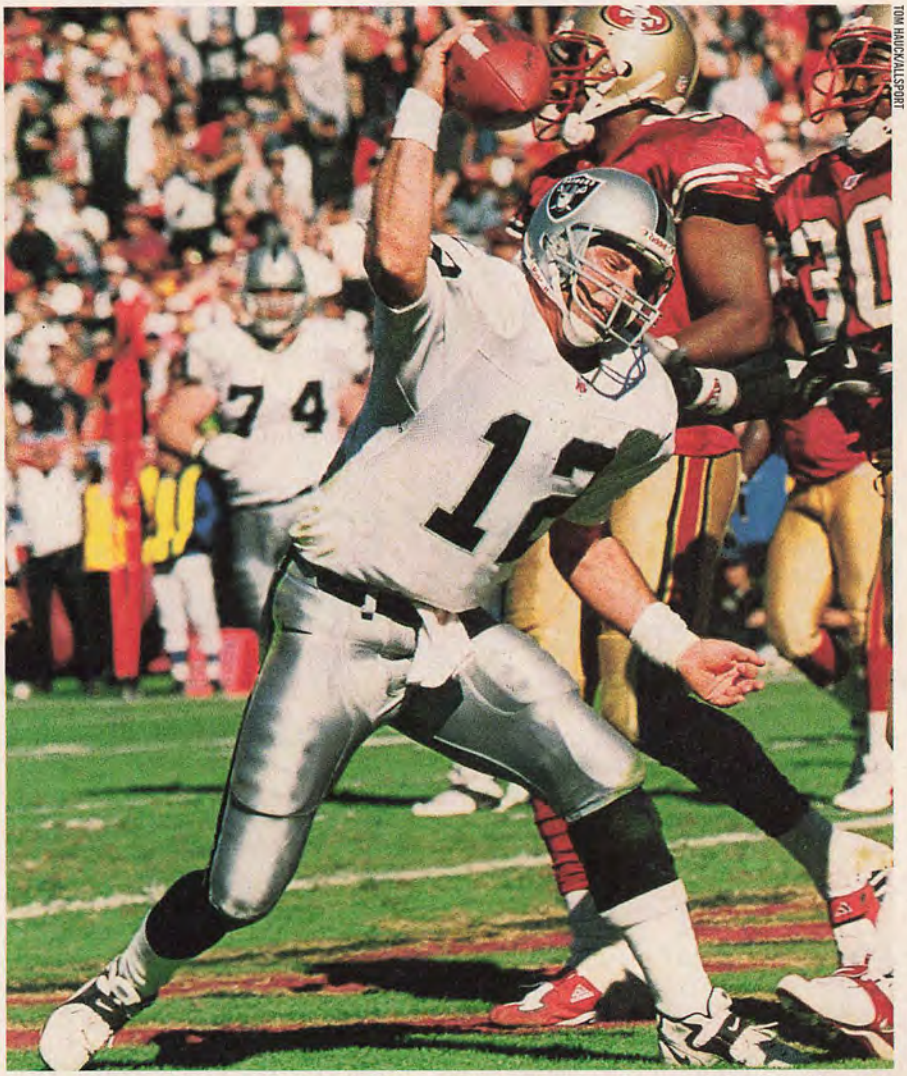
# Silver and black back to raid AFC opponents

By Jim Trotter

Coach Jon Gruden didn't make any major changes in the off-season, and why would he? All the Raiders did last year was reach the playoffs for the first time since 1993, claim their first division title since 1990 and come within a win of their first Super Bowl since the 1983 season.

Their model for success was a power running game, an efficient quarterback and a solid, though sometimes inconsistent, defense. Oakland addressed the defense by signing Miami free-agent end Trace Armstrong, re-signing outstanding cover linebacker William Thomas and using their first-round draft choice on Florida State strong safety Derrick Gibson, who is expected to challenge for a starting job.

Speed back Napoleon Kaufman retired after six seasons, but Oakland signed San Francisco free agent Charlie Garner. With Garner and Tyrone Wheatley, the Raiders are the only NFL team entering 2001 with two backs who rushed for 1,000 yards last year.



TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

*Gannon's good at spreading the ball to receivers, but he also can take it in himself.*

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- Author of Harper & Row's *Complete Guide To Sports Betting* & five other books considered to be the bible of sports wagering. Kelso is recognized in articles published in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Washington Post, & Playboy as *the nation's legitimate voice of sports handicapping.*
- Former Associated Press Regional Sports Editor & football scout in the SEC.
- Featured analyst on USA Network TV and contributor writer in Sports Form
- *The only sports handicapper to ever address the United States Congress on the subject of sports handicapping.*

*Literally, no other handicapper brings more to the table than Kelso Sturgeon, in credentials or in performance ...just take a look at a sampling of what Kelso was able to accomplish for his clients last football season.*

| | |
|---|---|
| September 3 | **NFL WISEGUY PARLAY OF YEAR** |
| Atlanta Falcons (-7) 36, 49ers 28 | WIN! |
| Miami Dolphins (-3) 23, Seattle Seahawks 0 | WIN! |
| September 16 | **COLLEGE UPSET GAME OF YEAR** |
| Pittsburgh (+ 3 1/2) 12, Penn State 0 | WIN! |
| September 23 | **COLLEGE GAME OF YEAR** |
| Miami FL (-7 1/2) 47, West Virginia 10 | WIN! |
| September 30 | **SEC GAME OF YEAR** |
| Georgia (-5 1/2) 38, Arkansas 7 | WIN! |
| October 7 | **FLORIDA GAME OF YEAR** |
| Miami FL (+6) 27, Florida State 24 | WIN! |
| October 8 | **NFL GAME OF YEAR** |
| Detroit Lions (-3) 31, Green Bay Packers 24 | WIN! |
| October 14 | **BIG EAST GAME OF YEAR** |
| Boston College (-1) 20, Syracuse 13 | WIN! |
| October 15 | **NFL WISEGUY GAME OF YEAR** |
| New Orleans Saints (-3) 24, Carolina 6 | WIN! |
| October 22 | **THREE-DOG NFL PARLAY** |
| New England (+8 1/2) 23, Colts 30 | WIN! |
| Buffalo Bills (+6) 27, Vikings 30 | WIN! |
| Kansas City Chiefs (+7) 54, St. Louis Rams 34 | WIN! |
| October 29 | **NFL GAME OF YEAR** |
| New Orleans Saints (-6) 21, Cardinals 10 | WIN! |
| November 4 | **COLLEGE SHOWDOWN OF YEAR** |
| Miami FL (-9 1/2) 41, Virginia Tech 21 | WIN! |
| November 5 | **AFC Game Of Year** |
| Baltimore Ravens (-6 1/2) 27, Bengals 7 | WIN! |
| November 12 | **SUNDAY NIGHT GAME OF YEAR** |
| Indianapolis Colts (-5 1/2) 23, Jets 15 | WIN! |
| November 20 | **NFL TOTAL OF YEAR** |
| UNDER 56 in St. Louis- Washington | WIN! |
| November 25 | **RIVALRY PARLAY OF YEAR** |
| Georgia Tech (-1) 27, Georgia 15 | WIN! |
| Notre Dame (+1) 38, USC 21 | WIN! |
| November 26 | **NFL WISEGUY GAME OF YEAR** |
| Baltimore Ravens (-17 1/2) 44, Browns 7 | WIN! |
| December 3 | **NFL SHOWDOWN TRIPLE CROWN** |
| Tampa Bay Bucs (-10) 27, Dallas Cowboys 7 | WIN! |
| Jacksonville Jaguars (-15 1/2) 45, Browns 0 | WIN! |
| Miami Dolphins (+3) 33, Buffalo Bills 6 | WIN! |
| January 6 NFL | **WISEGUY GAME OF YEAR** |
| Oakland Raiders (-9) 27, Miami Dolphins 0 | WIN! |
| January 7 | **NFL BLOWOUT GAME OF YEAR** |
| Baltimore Ravens (+6) 24, Titans 10 | WIN! |
| January 28 | **SUPER BOWL** |
| Baltimore Ravens (-3) 34, Giants 7 | WIN! |

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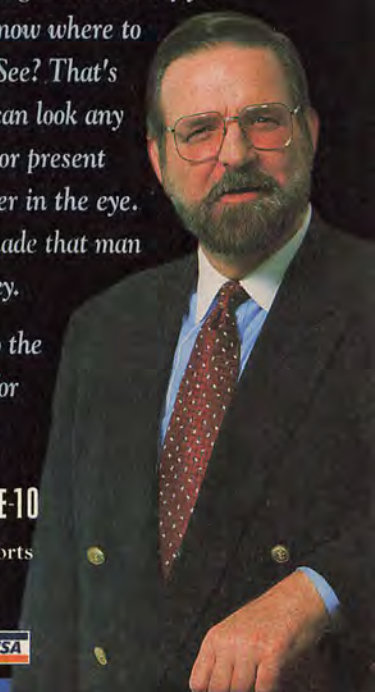

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Oakland's only unanswered questions heading toward training camp was if the team could re-sign wideout Andre Rison and add an additional piece to the defense.

**Quarterbacks** Rich Gannon followed his 1999 Pro Bowl season with a performance worthy of MVP consideration. He completed 60% of his passes for 3,430 yards and a career-high 28 touchdowns, with just 11 interceptions. Gannon completed 20 or more passes to seven different players, including three running backs and a tight end. He also ranked second among NFL quarterbacks with 529 yards rushing.

Oakland has Bobby Hoying and the aging Rodney Peete to vie for backup duty, but one of those two is likely to be cut to make space for draftee Marques Tuiasosopo, the Rose Bowl hero who could someday take Gannon's place.

**Running Backs** Wheatley had the best season of his six-year career, rushing for career-highs in yardage (1,046) and touchdowns (nine). His hard-charging style helped the Raiders lead the league in rushing with an average of 154.4 yards per game. Kaufman, only 28, retired in the off-season to devote more time to his ministry, but Raiders fans don't need to say any prayers for the running game. Garner rushed for 2,371 yards the last two seasons in San Francisco.

Wheatley will be the starter going into camp, but Garner will make a strong run for the job. He has good speed and toughness and is a better receiver than Wheatley. He didn't leave the Niners to ride pine.

Oakland also added veteran Terry Kirby for depth, and still has square-shouldered power-blocking fullback Jon Ritchie.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** In his 13th season, Tim Brown continued to out-run Father Time and opponents, posting his eighth straight 1,000-yard receiving season. He's already the franchise leader in catches and yards receiving. If he has started to slow down, he's hiding the signs.

Rison, a free-agent addition last year, helped take some of the heat off Brown by catching 41 passes for 606 yards and six touchdowns as the third wideout. Though he had not re-signed as of mid-May, the Raiders were hoping to finalize a deal. If Rison doesn't sign, someone new must emerge. James Jett, a vertical

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Kansas City | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | NEW YORK JETS | 4:15 |
| Sept. 23 | at Miami | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | SEATTLE | 4:15 |
| Oct. 7 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 14 | at Indianapolis | 8:30 |
| Oct. 21 | DALLAS | 4:15 |
| Oct. 28 | at Philadelphia | 4:15 |
| Nov. 5 | DENVER | 9:00 |
| Nov. 11 | at Seattle | 8:30 |
| Nov. 18 | SAN DIEGO | 4:05 |
| Nov. 25 | at New York Giants | 4:15 |
| Dec. 2 | ARIZONA | 4:15 |
| Dec. 9 | KANSAS CITY | 4:15 |
| Dec. 15 | at San Diego | 4:00 |
| Dec. 22 | TENNESSEE | 9:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Denver | 4:15 |

NETWORK ASSOCIATES COLISEUM (63,132)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

12-4, 1st in AFC WEST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | SAN DIEGO | W, 9-6 |
| Sept. 10 | at Indianapolis | W, 38-31 |
| Sept. 17 | DENVER | L, 24-33 |
| Sept. 24 | CLEVELAND | W, 36-10 |
| Oct. 8 | at San Francisco | W, 34-28 |
| Oct. 15 | at Kansas City | W, 20-17 |
| Oct. 22 | SEATTLE | W, 31-3 |
| Oct. 29 | at San Diego | W, 15-13 |
| Nov. 5 | KANSAS CITY | W, 49-31 |
| Nov. 13 | at Denver | L, 24-27 |
| Nov. 19 | at New Orleans | W, 31-22 |
| Nov. 26 | ATLANTA | W, 41-14 |
| Dec. 3 | at Pittsburgh | L, 20-21 |
| Dec. 10 | NEW YORK JETS | W, 31-7 |
| Dec. 16 | at Seattle | L, 24-27 |
| Dec. 24 | CAROLINA | W, 52-9 |
| Jan. 6 | MIAMI# | W, 27-0 |
| Jan. 14 | BALTIMORE§ | L, 3-16 |

# AFC Divisional Playoff, § AFC Championship

## 2000 RAIDERS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 361.0 (6) | 154.4 (1) | 206.6 (15) | 29.9 (3) | 23 (2) | 28 (6t) | 4.8 (2t) | 12.1 (8) | 28 (4t) | 337 (4) | 43.4 (5) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 328.1 (17) | 96.9 (5) | 231.1 (25) | 18.7 (9) | 8 (5) | 25 (23t) | 4.0 (11t) | 11.1 (8t) | 43 (10t) | 21 (6t) | 17 (3t) |

## 2001 RAIDERS PRESEASON ROSTER

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **QUARTERBACKS** | | | | | |
| 12 | Gannon, Rich | 6'3" | 210 | 35 | 13 | Delaware |
| 14 | Hoying, Bobby | 6'3" | 220 | 28 | 5 | Ohio State |
| 16 | Peete, Rodney | 6'0" | 225 | 35 | 12 | USC |
| 8 | Tuiasosopo, Marques | 6'1" | 220 | 22 | R | Washington |
| | **RUNNING BACKS** | | | | | |
| | Brigham, Marques | 5'11" | 205 | 24 | 2 | Wyoming |
| 5 | Combs, Derek | 6'0" | 193 | 22 | R | Ohio State |
| 32 | Crockett, Zack (FB) | 6'2" | 240 | 28 | 6 | Florida State |
| 25 | Garner, Charlie | 5'9" | 187 | 29 | 8 | Tennessee |
| 30 | Howard, Chris | 5'10" | 221 | 26 | 3 | Michigan |
| 35 | Jackson, Jabari | 6'2" | 225 | 24 | 2 | USC |
| 28 | Jordan, Randy | 5'11" | 220 | 31 | 7 | North Carolina |
| 42 | Kirby, Terry | 6'1" | 213 | 31 | 7 | Virginia |
| 40 | Ritchie, Jon (FB) | 6'1" | 250 | 26 | 3 | Stanford |
| 29 | Walker, Corey | 5'10" | 188 | 28 | 2 | Arkansas St. |
| 47 | Wheatley, Tyrone | 6'0" | 235 | 29 | 6 | Michigan |
| | **RECEIVERS** | | | | | |
| 85 | Barlow, Reggie | 6'0" | 187 | 28 | 5 | Alabama St. |
| 49 | Bjornson, Eric (TE) | 6'4" | 240 | 29 | 6 | Washington |
| 87 | Brigham, Jeremy (TE) | 6'6" | 255 | 26 | 3 | Washington |
| 81 | Brown, Tim | 6'0" | 195 | 35 | 13 | Notre Dame |
| 48 | Chryplewicz, Pete (TE) | 6'5" | 261 | 27 | 4 | Notre Dame |
| 88 | Dunn, David | 6'3" | 210 | 29 | 6 | Fresno State |
| 89 | Fulcher, Mondriel (TE) | 6'3" | 250 | 24 | R | Miami (Fla.) |
| 6 | Green, Javon | 6'2" | 200 | 23 | R | Colorado |
| 18 | Green, Yatil | 6'2" | 205 | 27 | 3 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 49 | Huston, Terrance (TE) | 6'4" | 255 | 25 | R | Butte College |
| 82 | Jett, James | 5'10" | 170 | 30 | 8 | West Virginia |
| 7 | Knight, Marcus | 6'1" | 181 | 23 | 1 | Michigan |
| | McCullough, Andy | 6'3" | 210 | 25 | 2 | Tennessee |
| | McGrew, Broderick | 6'2" | 210 | 23 | 1 | North Texas |
| 22 | Metcalf, Eric | 5'10" | 190 | 33 | 11 | Texas |
| 84 | Porter, Jerry | 6'2" | 220 | 23 | R | West Virginia |
| 83 | Rambo, Ken-Yon | 6'0" | 195 | 22 | R | Ohio State |
| 80 | Rison, Andre | 6'0" | 188 | 34 | 12 | Michigan State |
| 17 | Van Dyke, Alex | 6'0" | 205 | 27 | 5 | Nevada-Reno |
| 86 | Williams, Roland (TE) | 6'5" | 269 | 26 | 3 | Syracuse |
| | **OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 73 | Ashmore, Darryl (G-T) | 6'7" | 310 | 31 | 8 | Northwestern |
| 64 | Burns, Lamont (G) | 6'4" | 300 | 27 | R | East Carolina |
| 79 | Collins, Mo (T) | 6'4" | 325 | 24 | 3 | Florida |
| 68 | Hutson, Tony (G) | 6'3" | 317 | 27 | 5 | NE Okla. St. |
| 72 | Kennedy, Lincoln (T) | 6'6" | 335 | 30 | 8 | Washington |
| 78 | Middleton, Frank (G) | 6'3" | 334 | 26 | 5 | Arizona |
| 77 | Myles, Toby (T) | 6'5" | 320 | 26 | 2 | Jackson State |
| 71 | Parks, Nathan (G-T) | 6'5" | 305 | 26 | 1 | Stanford |
| 63 | Robbins, Barret (C) | 6'3" | 320 | 28 | 6 | TCU |
| 65 | Sims, Barry (G-T) | 6'5" | 300 | 26 | 2 | Utah |
| 74 | Stinchcomb, Matt (T) | 6'6" | 310 | 24 | 2 | Georgia |
| 62 | Treu, Adam (C) | 6'5" | 300 | 27 | 4 | Nebraska |
| | Tucker, Josh (T) | 6'4" | 294 | 23 | 1 | Tennessee |
| 57 | Watts, Jason (C) | 6'2" | 295 | 24 | 1 | Kentucky |
| 76 | Wisniewski, Steve (G) | 6'4" | 305 | 34 | 12 | Penn State |
| | **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 93 | Armstrong, Trace (E) | 6'4" | 270 | 35 | 12 | Florida |
| 94 | Bryant, Tony (E) | 6'4" | 275 | 24 | 2 | Florida State |
| 57 | Coleman, Roderick (T) | 6'2" | 285 | 25 | 2 | East Carolina |
| 75 | Cooper, Chris (E) | 6'5" | 270 | 23 | R | Neb.-Omaha |
| 98 | Ekiyor, Emil (E) | 6'4" | 245 | 27 | 4 | Central Florida |
| 95 | Grant, DeLawrence (E) | 6'2" | 280 | 22 | R | Oregon State |
| | Harris, Jon (E) | 6'7" | 305 | 27 | 3 | Virginia |
| 92 | Ioane, Junior (E) | 6'4" | 320 | 24 | R | Arizona State |
| 90 | Jackson, Grady (E) | 6'2" | 325 | 28 | 4 | Knoxville |
| 96 | Russell, Darrell (T) | 6'5" | 325 | 25 | 4 | USC |
| 99 | Taves, Josh (E) | 6'7" | 280 | 29 | 1 | Northeastern |
| 91 | Upshaw, Regan (E) | 6'4" | 260 | 26 | 5 | California |
| | **LINEBACKERS** | | | | | |
| 58 | Alexander, Elijah | 6'2" | 235 | 31 | 8 | Kansas State |
| 50 | Barton, Eric | 6'2" | 245 | 23 | 2 | Maryland |
| 54 | Biekert, Greg | 6'2" | 255 | 32 | 8 | Colorado |
| 55 | Brooks, Bobby | 6'2" | 240 | 25 | 1 | Fresno State |
| 51 | Phillips, Ryan | 6'4" | 252 | 27 | 4 | Idaho |
| 53 | Smith, Travian | 6'4" | 240 | 26 | 3 | Oklahoma |
| 52 | Taylor, Ryan | 6'2" | 230 | 24 | 1 | Auburn |
| 59 | Thomas, William | 6'2" | 225 | 33 | 10 | Texas A&M |
| | **DEFENSIVE BACKS** | | | | | |
| 21 | Allen, Eric | 5'10" | 190 | 35 | 13 | Arizona State |
| | Black, Clifton | 6'0" | 200 | 24 | R | SW Texas St. |
| 27 | Branch, Calvin | 5'11" | 195 | 27 | 5 | Colorado State |
| 33 | Dorsett, Anthony | 5'11" | 205 | 27 | 5 | Pittsburgh |
| 43 | Gibson, Derrick | 6'1" | 218 | 22 | R | Florida State |
| 37 | Harris, Johnnie | 6'2" | 210 | 29 | 2 | Mississippi St. |
| 20 | James, Tory | 6'2" | 190 | 28 | 5 | LSU |
| 39 | Jennings, Brandon | 6'0" | 190 | 23 | 1 | Texas A&M |
| 41 | Johnson, Eric | 6'0" | 210 | 25 | 1 | Nebraska |
| 44 | McDonald, Ramos | 5'11" | 202 | 25 | 4 | New Mexico |
| 34 | Perryman, Raymond | 6'0" | 204 | 22 | R | N. Arizona |
| 23 | Pope, Marquez | 5'11" | 205 | 30 | 9 | Fresno State |
| 31 | Posey, Carlos | 5'10" | 193 | 23 | 1 | Missouri |
| 24 | Woodson, Charles | 6'1" | 205 | 24 | 3 | Michigan |
| | **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| 11 | Janikowski, Sebastian (K) | 6'1" | 255 | 23 | 1 | Florida State |
| 9 | Lechler, Shane (P) | 6'2" | 230 | 25 | 1 | Texas A&M |

speedster, tends to disappear from games. He alone isn't the answer. Same goes for fast kick returner David Dunn and off-season acquisition Eric Metcalf, who is past his prime.

The Raiders hope Roland Williams, obtained from the Rams before the draft, can fill the hole left by tight end Rickey Dudley, who signed with Cleveland. Though inconsistent, Dudley was always a big-play threat.

**Offensive Line** This unit was the strength of the team last year, helping the Raiders lead the league in rushing while allowing just 28 sacks. The group returns intact, but it remains to be seen whether left tackle Matt Stinchcomb, the team's 1999 first-round draft choice, will regain his starting job. Barry Sims did a fine job filling in down the stretch while Stinchcomb was on IR. Frank Middleton, signed from Tampa Bay, is looking to sneak into the lineup at right guard, opposite All-Pro left guard Steve Wisniewski.

**Defensive Line** The Raiders had 43 sacks as a team, a decent total, but it should be higher considering Oakland's stellar cover secondary. The Raiders hope the signing of Miami free-agent Armstrong, who had 16½ sacks last year, jump-starts the line. Armstrong, though, is 35 and was a part-timer for the Dolphins, so it remains to be seen if he'll hold up playing full-time. Regan Upshaw and Tony Bryant could start, saving Armstrong for pass-rush situations.

Two-time Pro Bowl tackle Darrell Russell ran more cold than hot, and the Raiders need more from him. Grady Jackson had a much better year inside, but the Raiders weren't sold on the tandem. In fact, they were close to signing Rams tackle D'Marco Farr at press time.

**Linebackers** Greg Biekert and Elijah Alexander showed they can excel against the pass, and the Raiders re-signed William Thomas in May. The 10-year veteran will again spend most of his time tailing tight ends and wideouts in the flat, looking to add to his 24 career picks—not bad for a linebacker.

Oakland also has third-year pro Eric Barton and signed former Giant Ryan Phillips to provide some depth.

**Defensive Backs** Charles Woodson has become one of the game's best young cornerbacks, and Eric Allen showed last year he had fully recovered from 1999 knee surgery. But while Woodson and Allen made big plays, the Raiders' pass defense finished 25th overall at 231.1 yards per game. To correct that weakness, Oakland drafted Florida State safety Gibson, who is expected to push Marquez Pope for the starting strong safety job. Anthony Dorsett can sometimes be a liability at free safety, but he should start again this season.

*Charles Woodson*

**Special Teams** Punter Shane Lechler is one of the NFL's best. As a rookie last year, he led the league in net average (38.0), and he dropped 24 punts inside opponents' 20. Kicker Sebastian Janikowski had an up-and-down season. He started slowly but turned it on late in the year. The booming lefty can only improve with experience.

Oakland's return teams will receive a huge boost if Jacksonville free agent Reggie Barlow returns to form. He averaged at least 10.9 yards on punt returns in each of his first three years, but saw his average fall to 6.9 last season. David Dunn can swing momentum in Oakland's favor on each kick return.

**Management** After years of failing to live up to expectations, the Raiders played up to their potential in 2000. The challenge now is to avoid a letdown. Gruden is one of the game's brighter coaches, and he figures to push the right buttons. This is a veteran team that knows how to win. And even if owner Al Davis is trying to tunnel the team back to Los Angeles, there's enough talent in Oakland to get the Raiders back to the Super Bowl for the first time in 18 years.

*Jim Trotter covers the NFL for* The San Diego Union-Tribune.

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

If two-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle Darrell Russell can bounce back from a disappointing season, Oakland's defense will leave opponents black and blue.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Raiders at Broncos, Dec. 30. Season finale could determine who wins the division.

### KEY STAT

The Raiders were 12-0 in games in which they forced more turnovers than they committed.

### GLUE GUY

QB Rich Gannon's importance was reaffirmed when he injured his shoulder in the AFC Championship game loss to Baltimore. He must stay healthy.

***Darrell Russell***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Derrick Gibson** S, Florida State
Is expected to challenge for a starting job.

2 **Marques Tuiasosopo** QB, Washington
Raiders had him rated higher than Drew Brees.

3 **DeLawrence Grant** DE, Oregon State
Good size, great speed, excellent upside.

5 **Raymond Perryman** S, Northern Arizona
Was a linebacker in '99; level of competition is an issue.

6 **Chris Cooper** DE, Northern Arizona
Can play end or tackle, but must work hard to make team.

7 **Derek Combs** RB, Ohio State
Will likely be moved to wide receiver.

7 **Ken-Yon Rambo** WR, Ohio State
Is known for picking up yards after the catch.

**B-** Taking Gibson in the first round was a need pick, but Oakland had bigger needs, like, say, a quality tight end. Though Oakland traded for Roland Williams, Arizona State tight end Todd Heap was still on the board at the 28th pick. Tuiasosopo reminds some people of Rich Gannon, at least in the way he plays. He's very mobile and a proven winner who is likely to be groomed as Gannon's replacement. Grant went where he was projected, but Perryman and Cooper look like major reaches. Rambo has the raw skills to have gone earlier than the seventh round, but he dropped a lot of balls at Ohio State and came across as too high-strung.

NFL (RUSSELL); DAVID DUROCHIK/SPORTPICS

# Seattle SEAHAWKS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Hasselbeck has the tools, but lacks experience. | 6 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Watters and Alexander are a lethal combo. | 8 |
| **RECEIVERS:** Jackson and Robinson are two young burners. | 6 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Hutchinson can be plugged right into line. | 7 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Randle and Sinclair must prove they have gas left. | 6 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** This group has the potential to be special. | 7 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Wanted: A right cornerback and a strong safety. | 5 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Excellent return people, solid kicker and punter. | 8 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** Holmgren drew raves for his draft-day moves. | 9 |
| **OVERALL:** Free agency, draft has righted this franchise. | 7 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**2nd in AFC West**

## SEAHAWKS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Mike Holmgren (15-18 with Seattle)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Matt Hasselbeck (GB) | 10-19, 104 yds, 1 TD |
| RB | Ricky Watters | 278 car, 1,242 yds, 7 TDs |
| FB | Mack Strong | 3 car, 9 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Koren Robinson (R) | 62 rec, 1,061 yds, 12 TDs* |
| WR | Darrell Jackson | 53 rec, 713 yds, 6 TDs |
| TE | Christian Fauria | 28 rec, 237 yds, 2 TDs |
| LT | Walter Jones | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Steve Hutchinson (R) | 12 games, 12 starts* |
| C | Robbie Tobeck | 4 games, 0 starts |
| RG | Floyd Wedderburn | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Chris McIntosh | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Michael Sinclair | 49 tackles, 4.5 sacks |
| DT | Chad Eaton (NE) | 78 tackles, 3 sacks |
| DT | John Randle (MIN) | 26 tackles, 8 sacks |
| DE | Lamar King | 48 tackles, 6 sacks |
| LB | Chad Brown | 94 tackles, 6 sacks |
| LB | Levon Kirkland (PIT) | 86 tackles, 1 INT |
| LB | Anthony Simmons | 147 tackles, 4 sacks |
| CB | Shawn Springs | 85 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Ike Charlton | 13 tackles, 0 INTs |
| SS | Reggie Tongue | 40 tackles, 0 INTs |
| FS | Marcus Robertson (TEN) | 72 tackles, 0 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Rian Lindell | 25-25 XPs, 15-17 FGs |
| P | Jeff Feagles | 74 punts, 40.0 avg |
| KR | Charlie Rogers | 66 KR, 24.7 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | Charlie Rogers | 26 PR, 14.0 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in Blue; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Larry Brooks, DL; Jerry Colquitt, off. asst.; Nolan Cromwell, WRs; Ken Flajole, DBs; Gil Haskell, offensive coordinator; Johnny Holland, LBs; Kent Johnston, strength and conditioning; Jim Lind, TEs; Clayton Lopez, def. asst.; Tom Lovat, OL; Stump Mitchell, RBs; Pete Rodriguez, special teams; Steve Sidwell, defensive coordinator; Jim Zorn, QBs

# Holmgren wheels, deals to give Hawks new look

The Seahawks won the AFC West in Mike Holmgren's first year as their coach and GM, but much of the momentum from that successful campaign dissipated in the ensuing free agency period.

By the time last season began, Holmgren had shown the door to Joey Galloway, Sam Adams, Phillip Daniels, Kevin Glover and Darryl Williams, among others. The result? A 6-10 disappointment, plus questions about whether Holmgren had taken on too many responsibilities.

But just when the grumbling was growing loud, Holmgren hit the accelerator toward complete overhaul. He traded for Green Bay quarterback Matt Hasselbeck, bulked up his defense with a ton of veteran talent and hit the jackpot on draft weekend, landing 12 new faces, among them a 20-year-old star wide receiver and an NFL-ready offensive lineman.

Now, for the first time since Holmgren headed west, the Seahawks are viewed as his team. Also, perhaps for the first time in three years, Holmgren

ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

*Watters, coming off of a career year, doesn't plan on relinquishing his starting job.*

senses the urgency to win now. He doesn't have 10 years to turn this boat around. Seattle needs Ws now more than ever as it gets set to move into a new stadium in 2002.

"I think Mike Holmgren is finally going to be putting his football team on the field," says veteran safety Marcus Robertson, who left the Tennessee Titans to join the Seahawks. "And we all know you have to be excited about that."

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | at Cleveland | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | KANSAS CITY | 4:15 |
| Sept. 23 | Philadelphia | 4:15 |
| Sept. 30 | at Oakland | 4:15 |
| Oct. 7 | JACKSONVILLE | 4:05 |
| Oct. 14 | DENVER | 4:15 |
| Oct. 21 | Open Date | |
| Oct. 28 | MIAMI | 4:15 |
| Nov. 4 | at Washington | 4:15 |
| Nov. 11 | OAKLAND | 8:30 |
| Nov. 18 | at Buffalo | 1:00 |
| Nov. 25 | at Kansas City | 1:00 |
| Dec. 2 | SAN DIEGO | 4:05 |
| Dec. 9 | at Denver | 8:30 |
| Dec. 16 | DALLAS | 4:15 |
| Dec. 23 | at New York Giants | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at San Diego | 4:15 |

HUSKY STADIUM (68,589)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

6-10, 4th in AFC WEST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Miami | L, 0-23 |
| Sept. 10 | ST. LOUIS | L, 34-37 |
| Sept. 17 | NEW ORLEANS | W, 20-10 |
| Sept. 24 | at San Diego | W, 20-12 |
| Oct. 2 | at Kansas City | L, 17-24 |
| Oct. 8 | at Carolina | L, 3-26 |
| Oct. 15 | INDIANAPOLIS | L, 24-37 |
| Oct. 22 | at Oakland | L, 3-31 |
| Oct. 29 | KANSAS CITY | L, 19-24 |
| Nov. 5 | SAN DIEGO | W, 17-15 |
| Nov. 12 | at Jacksonville | W, 28-21 |
| Nov. 26 | DENVER | L, 31-38 |
| Dec. 3 | at Atlanta | W, 30-10 |
| Dec. 10 | at Denver | L, 24-31 |
| Dec. 16 | OAKLAND | W, 27-24 |
| Dec. 23 | BUFFALO | L, 23-42 |

### Quarterbacks

The Seahawks are holding their collective breath that Hasselbeck's growing pains will be limited. The third-year pro out of Boston College has never started an NFL game and has attempted just 29 passes in his career. But his height (6'4"), strong right arm, good mobility and stellar performances in past preseasons made him attractive to Holmgren. The coach had lost faith in two-year starter Jon Kitna, who's now with Cincinnati.

Should Hasselbeck struggle mightily, Brock Huard is a capable reserve. Holmgren gave him a taste of action last year, and Huard chucked three TDs.

### Running Backs

Shaun Alexander was supposed to nudge veteran Ricky Watters out of the starting lineup last year as a rookie, but instead Alexander's presence pushed Watters to an outstanding season. Watters finished with a career-high 1,855 all-purpose yards, limiting Alexander's opportunities at the same time.

Holmgren wants to get Alexander more involved this year, but Watters doesn't plan on letting up. He showed up at the team's first minicamp weighing a lean 210 pounds—10 below his playing weight in 2000 and 20 pounds lighter than he was in 1999. His secret? Twelve hours of Kung Fu training per week during the off-season.

Alexander, who gained 313 yards on 64 rushes, has all the tools to be an NFL starter. But even if Holmgren gets him more work, that starting job is likely still at least a year away.

Fullback Mack Strong is a good blocker, though he could be pushed by rookie Heath Evans.

### Receivers/Tight Ends

Blame Kitna if you like, but the fact is, Seattle's vertical game suffered last year without a dynamic deep threat. Consider that problem solved. The Seahawks were delighted to land N.C. State wideout Koren Robinson with their first pick, and for good reason. Though he played only two college seasons, Robinson showed skills that had scouts reaching for tapes of Minnesota's Randy Moss. With tissue-soft hands, good size (6'1"), breakaway speed and the ability to sky

## 2000 SEAHAWKS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 292.5 (19) | 107.5 (22) | 185.0 (21) | 20.0 (19) | 10 (23) | 21 (12t) | 4.3 (7t) | 10.4 (28) | 46 (23) | 281 (21) | 40.5 (10) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 399.4 (31) | 153.4 (28) | 246.1 (30) | 25.3 (25) | 20 (28) | 23 (17t) | 4.9 (30t) | 13.2 (29t) | 27 (27t) | 17 (13t) | -9 (23t) |

## 2001 SEAHAWKS PRESEASON ROSTER

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **QUARTERBACKS** | | | | | |
| 2 | Booty, Josh | 6'2" | 221 | 26 | R | LSU |
| 5 | Brown, Travis | 6'3" | 218 | 24 | 1 | Northern Arizona |
| 8 | Hasselbeck, Matt | 6'4" | 220 | 25 | 2 | Boston College |
| 11 | Huard, Brock | 6'4" | 228 | 25 | 2 | Washington |
| | **RUNNING BACKS** | | | | | |
| 37 | Alexander, Shaun | 5'11" | 218 | 24 | 1 | Alabama |
| 34 | Brown, Reggie | 6'0" | 244 | 28 | 6 | Fresno State |
| 44 | Evans, Heath (FB) | 6'0" | 246 | 22 | R | Auburn |
| 47 | Garden, Lloyd | 5'10" | 238 | 23 | R | Cincinnati |
| 34 | Graham, Jay | 5'11" | 215 | 26 | 5 | Tennessee |
| 35 | Phillips, Rod | 5'11" | 205 | 23 | R | SMU |
| 38 | Strong, Mack (FB) | 6'0" | 235 | 29 | 8 | Georgia |
| 32 | Watters, Ricky | 6'1" | 217 | 32 | 10 | Notre Dame |
| | **RECEIVERS** | | | | | |
| 83 | Bailey, Karsten | 5'10" | 201 | 24 | 3 | Auburn |
| 18 | Bannister, Alex | 6'5" | 201 | 22 | R | Eastern Kentucky |
| 19 | Bownes, Fabien | 5'11" | 192 | 29 | 5 | Western Illinois |
| 14 | Cook, Kerwin | 6'1" | 178 | 21 | R | Tulane |
| 15 | Dorsey, Jerry | 6'1" | 190 | 22 | R | Indiana |
| 86 | Fauria, Christian (TE) | 6'4" | 245 | 29 | 7 | Colorado |
| 84 | French, Rufus (TE) | 6'3" | 257 | 23 | 1 | Mississippi |
| 85 | Hill, James (TE) | 6'4" | 246 | 26 | 2 | Abilene Christian |
| 82 | Jackson, Darrell | 6'0" | 197 | 22 | 2 | Florida |
| 18 | Jones, Dwaune | 6'0" | 189 | 24 | R | Richmond |
| 89 | Mili, Itula (TE) | 6'4" | 265 | 28 | 5 | BYU |
| 17 | Nelson, Corey | 6'1" | 192 | 23 | 1 | Boise State |
| 48 | Osborne, Scot (TE) | 6'4" | 258 | 23 | 1 | William & Mary |
| 81 | Robinson, Koren | 6'1" | 211 | 21 | R | N.C. State |
| 31 | Rogers, Charlie | 5'9" | 179 | 25 | 3 | Georgia Tech |
| 88 | Williams, James | 5'10" | 180 | 23 | 1 | Marshall |
| 49 | Woodard, Billy (TE) | 6'5" | 253 | 25 | 1 | Rutgers |
| | **OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 63 | Beede, Frank (G) | 6'4" | 296 | 28 | 6 | OK Panhandle St. |
| 52 | Darche, Jean-Philippe (C) | 6'0" | 242 | 26 | 2 | McGill (Canada) |
| 62 | Gray, Chris (G) | 6'4" | 305 | 31 | 9 | Auburn |
| 76 | Hutchinson, Steve (G) | 6'5" | 306 | 23 | R | Michigan |
| 71 | Jones, Walter (T) | 6'5" | 300 | 27 | 5 | Florida State |
| 65 | King, Eric (G) | 6'4" | 290 | 26 | R | Richmond |
| 75 | McIntosh, Chris (T) | 6'7" | 317 | 24 | 2 | Wisconsin |
| 68 | Norman, Dennis (T) | 6'5" | 305 | 21 | R | Princeton |
| 79 | Overhauser, Chad (T) | 6'4" | 316 | 26 | 2 | UCLA |
| 61 | Tobeck, Robbie (C) | 6'4" | 298 | 31 | 8 | Washington St. |
| 69 | Wedderburn, Floyd (T) | 6'5" | 333 | 25 | 3 | Penn State |
| 74 | Weiner, Todd (T) | 6'4" | 300 | 25 | 4 | Kansas State |
| 77 | Womack, Floyd (T) | 6'4" | 345 | 22 | R | Mississippi St. |
| | **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** | | | | | |
| 60 | Brown, Joe (T) | 6'6" | 290 | 24 | R | Ohio State |
| 78 | Cochran, Antonio (E) | 6'4" | 297 | 25 | 3 | Georgia |
| 90 | Eaton, Chad (T) | 6'5" | 300 | 29 | 5 | Washington St. |
| 95 | Hilliard, John (E) | 6'2" | 285 | 25 | 2 | Mississippi St. |
| 92 | King, Lamar DE | 6'3" | 294 | 26 | 3 | Saginaw Valley St. |
| 67 | Kocurek, Kris (E) | 6'4" | 296 | 21 | R | Texas Tech |
| 99 | LaBounty, Matt (E) | 6'4" | 275 | 32 | 9 | Oregon |
| 93 | Randle, John (T) | 6'1" | 296 | 33 | 12 | Texas A&M- Kings. |
| 70 | Sinclair, Michael (E) | 6'4" | 275 | 33 | 11 | E. New Mexico |
| 73 | Staat, Jeremy (E) | 6'5" | 300 | 24 | 4 | Arizona State |
| 91 | Watson, Tim (E) | 6'4" | 290 | 26 | 1 | Rowan |
| 98 | Woodard, Cedric (E) | 6'2" | 290 | 23 | 2 | Texas |
| | **LINEBACKERS** | | | | | |
| 55 | Bell, Marcus | 6'1" | 237 | 24 | 1 | Arizona |
| 94 | Brown, Chad | 6'2" | 240 | 31 | 9 | Colorado |
| 46 | Epps, Dwan | 6'2" | 245 | 21 | R | Fresno State |
| 57 | Huff, Orlando | 6'1" | 242 | 24 | 1 | Texas Southern |
| 54 | Jackson, LaDairis | 6'2" | 271 | 22 | R | Oregon State |
| 58 | Kacyvenski, Isaiah | 6'1" | 250 | 23 | 1 | Harvard |
| 99 | Kirkland, Levon | 6'1" | 270 | 32 | 10 | Clemson |
| 50 | Myles, DeShone | 6'2" | 235 | 26 | 3 | Nevada-Reno |
| 51 | Simmons, Anthony | 6'0" | 230 | 25 | 4 | Clemson |
| 59 | Terry, Tim | 6'3" | 235 | 27 | 3 | Temple |
| | **DEFENSIVE BACKS** | | | | | |
| 6 | Blackmon, Harold | 5'11" | 210 | 22 | R | Northwestern |
| 40 | Byrd, David | 5'11" | 193 | 23 | R | Syracuse |
| 36 | Caldwell, Donnie | 5'11" | 185 | 23 | 1 | Western Illinois |
| 23 | Charlton, Ike | 5'11" | 205 | 23 | 2 | Virginia Tech |
| 29 | Fuller, Curtis | 5'10" | 186 | 22 | R | TCU |
| 26 | Lucas, Ken | 6'0" | 200 | 22 | R | Mississippi |
| 33 | Kelly, Maurice | 6'1" | 205 | 28 | 2 | East Tenn. St. |
| 22 | Miranda, Paul | 5'10" | 184 | 25 | 3 | Central Florida |
| 31 | Robertson, Marcus | 5'11" | 205 | 31 | 11 | Iowa State |
| 41 | Rogers, Chris | 5'10" | 192 | 24 | 2 | Howard |
| 46 | Settles, Tawambi | 6'2" | 194 | 25 | 1 | Duke |
| 30 | Smith, Jermaine | 5'11" | 195 | 23 | R | Washington |
| 24 | Springs, Shawn | 6'0" | 195 | 26 | 5 | Ohio State |
| 43 | Terry, Nate | 6'3" | 185 | 24 | 1 | West Virginia |
| 25 | Tongue, Reggie | 6'0" | 206 | 28 | 6 | Oregon State |
| 21 | Vinson, Fred | 5'11" | 180 | 24 | 2 | Vanderbilt |
| 27 | Williams, Willie | 5'9" | 180 | 30 | 9 | W. Carolina |
| | **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| 10 | Feagles, Jeff (P) | 6'1" | 207 | 35 | 14 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 9 | Lindell, Rian (K) | 6'3" | 241 | 24 | 2 | Washington St. |

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

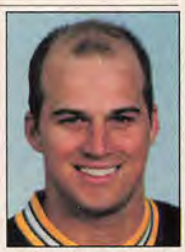
Of QB Matt Hasselbeck, coach Mike Holmgren says, "If Matt can play like we think he can, we should be O.K." That's pressure for a new starter.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Watters vs. Alexander. The two didn't have a problem co-existing last year, when then-rookie Alexander deferred to veteran Watters. But Holmgren says Alexander needs more carries.

### KEY STAT

Seattle added four new defensive starters, hoping to solidify a unit that allowed more yards (6,391) than all but two teams in league history.



***Matt Hasselbeck***

### GLUE GUY

Holmgren could find himself on the hot seat if he follows 2000's 6-10 year with another stinker.

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Koren Robinson** WR, N.C. State
Big-play threat who brings big-time attitude.

1 **Steve Hutchinson** G, Michigan
Was stunned to find himself still on the board at No. 17.

2 **Ken Lucas** CB, Mississippi
Has size, strength and man-to-man cover skills.

3 **Heath Evans** FB, Auburn
Excellent lead blocker who could supplant Mack Strong.

4 **Orlando Huff** LB, Fresno State
Good athlete who needs to get stronger.

4 **Curtis Fuller** S, TCU
Undersized at 186 lbs; good instincts and tackling ability.

4 **Floyd Womack** OT, Mississippi State
330-pounder goes by fitting nickname Pork Chop.

5 **Alex Barnister** WR, Eastern Kentucky
Excellent speed, but inconsistent hands.

6 **Josh Booty** QB, LSU
Ex-pro baseball player threw 34 picks in two seasons.

7 **Harold Blackmon** CB, Northwestern
Seahawks had four-year starter rated a fourth-rounder.

7 **Dennis Norman** OT, Princeton
Ivy League diploma more valuable than his blocking ability.

7 **Kris Kocurek** DT, Texas Tech
Relentless effort guy who plays well against the run.

**A⁻** Seattle got an A+ on Day 1 for nabbing the gifted Robinson, Hutchinson, who can play guard or tackle, and Lucas, a former receiver who will push for the starting corner job opposite Shawn Springs. Several lower-round picks are projects.

for balls, Robinson makes incredible plays look like anyone can do it.

He's a safe bet to start alongside Darrell Jackson, another youngster who can burn up the rug. Robinson's arrival allowed Holmgren to dump Sean Dawkins and Derrick Mayes.

Seattle has a pair of capable tight ends in Christian Fauria and Itula Mili. The duo combined for five touchdowns last year.

**Offensive Line** The Seahawks have two talented young tackles in Walter Jones and Chris McIntosh, and two promising young guards in Floyd Wedderburn and rookie Steve Hutchinson. The ex-Michigan star went surprisingly low at 17th overall in the draft but is expected to beat out veteran Chris Gray for the starting job at left guard. Center Robbie Tobeck has had some problems staying healthy, but that's not as big a concern this year because Gray did such a nice job filling in last season.

**Defensive Line** The Seahawks were ripped for 10 100-yard rushing games in 2000, en route to being the third-worst rushing defense. Much of the blame for allowing 399.4 yards a game fell on tackles Riddick Parker and Cortez Kennedy, who weren't brought back. In their places are free-agent additions John Randle (Vikings) and Chad Eaton (Patriots), two crafty veterans who want their old teams to know they can still play. A nice surge up the gut should open opportunities for left end Michael Sinclair, who's coming off a real downer of a season, and up and-coming right end Lamar King.

**Linebackers** Having added Pittsburgh standout Levon Kirkland, the Hawks could well boast one of football's best linebacker trios. Strongside backer Chad Brown, Kirkland's former teammate in Pittsburgh, tied with King for the team lead with six sacks. Anthony Simmons doesn't miss many tackles, but with more skill next to and in front of him, he can afford to be more aggressive upfield. One other note on Kirkland: He's making the switch to a 4-3 scheme from Pittsburgh's 3-4. If the acclimation goes smoothly, opponents won't have nearly as easy a time running the ball on Seattle.

***Chad Brown***

**Defensive Backs** The Seahawks were awful against the pass last year, but that should improve if only because cornerback Shawn Springs has recovered from a hamstring injury that nagged him all season. Still, some problems linger. Ike Charlton struggled as a rookie at right corner, and another rookie, Ken Lucas, was his main competition for the job at press time. Seattle brought back Willie Williams for depth.

Also, strong safety Kerry Joseph had not re-signed at press time, meaning the team was planning to use Reggie Tongue, who was benched midway through last season due to poor play.

Ex-Titan Robertson is an upgrade at free safety. He's a sound tackler who won't make many mistakes and can stabilize the secondary.

**Special Teams** Seattle ranked among league leaders in most special team categories last season, and this year should be more of the same. Kicker Rian Lindell gets distance on kickoffs and nailed three of three field goals from 50 yards and out. Jeff Feagles had an off year, but still put 24 inside the opponents' 20-yard line.

The Seahawks have a standout return specialist in Charlie Rogers, who ranked sixth in the AFC on punt returns (14.0-yard average) and seventh on kickoff returns (24.7).

**Management** Holmgren took some heat last year when he expedited the departures of several longtime starters, but as with most Holmgren moves, his actions had a purpose. The departed players helped free up cap money, which was used to inject a re-energized veteran presence back into the Seahawks' lineup.

The key now for Seattle, and for Holmgren's status for that matter, is to win. He can't be too worried. After all, last year was the first of his nine seasons as a head coach that he finished with a losing record.

*—Jim Trotter*

NFL (HASSELBECK); TOM HAUCK/ALLSPORT

# Denver BRONCOS

# Griese's arm, rebuilt D key revitalization effort

Change is the buzzword with the Broncos. This season they'll have a new home (Invesco Field at Mile High), a new defensive coordinator, a new offensive line coach, at least one new starting offensive lineman, two new starting defensive linemen and two new starters in the secondary.

Coach Mike Shanahan hopes the fresh faces, for whom Denver shelled out big bucks, will help the Broncos earn their first postseason victory since winning the second of back-to-back Super Bowls in 1999. Denver failed to make the playoffs two seasons ago—its first without John Elway—and lost in the first round last year.

Defensive coordinator Greg Robinson was fired after his unit gave up an NFL-high 3,946 yards passing and wasn't much better against the run (see Cincinnati running back Corey Dillon's league-record 278-yard game). Replacing Robinson is Ray Rhodes, who toughened up the Washington Redskins' defense in just one season.

Denver's offense shouldn't be a problem—is it ever with Shanahan? Last

BRIAN BAHR/ALLSPORT

***With 100 catches last season, Smith set a Broncos record of 1,602 receiving yards.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **8** |
| Only question about Griese is his durability. | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **9** |
| E-nee, me-nee, my-nee, mo. | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **9** |
| A third wideout would make them lethal. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **8** |
| Must prove it can do it without Alex Gibbs. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **6** |
| Which McGlockton and Lett are the Broncos getting? | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **6** |
| Romanowski showing no signs of slowing. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **5** |
| Change was in order. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **6** |
| Must be more consistent. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **7** |
| Rolled dice with moves, but will they pay off? | |
| **OVERALL:** | **8** |
| If healthy, talented enough to go the distance. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**3rd in AFC West**

## BRONCOS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Mike Shanahan (71-34 with Denver)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Brian Griese | 216-336, 2,688 yds, 19 TDs |
| RB | Terrell Davis | 78 car, 282 yds, 2 TDs |
| FB | Howard Griffith | 5 car, 4 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | Rod Smith | 100 rec, 1,602 yds, 8 TDs |
| WR | Ed McCaffrey | 101 rec, 1,317 yds, 9 TDs |
| TE | Dwayne Carswell | 49 rec, 495 yds, 3 TDs |
| LT | Matt Lepsis | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | Lennie Friedman | 16 games, 8 starts |
| C | Tom Nalen | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | Dan Neil | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Todd Fordham (JAX) | 16 games, 8 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Leon Lett (DAL) | 16 tackles, 2.5 sacks |
| DT | Chester McGlockton (KC) | 39 tackles, 4 sacks |
| DT | Trevor Pryce | 46 tackles, 12 sacks |
| DE | Kavika Pittman | 28 tackles, 7 sacks |
| LB | Bill Romanowski | 72 tackles, 3.5 sacks |
| LB | Al Wilson | 60 tackles, 5 sacks |
| LB | John Mobley | 85 tackles, 2 sacks |
| CB | Denard Walker (TEN) | 45 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Deltha O'Neal | 3 tackles, 0 INTs |
| SS | Billy Jenkins | 93 tackles, 4 INTs |
| FS | Eric Brown | 91 tackles, 3 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Jason Elam | 49-49 XPs, 18-24 FGs |
| P | Nick Harris (R) | 73 punts, 41.5 avg* |
| KR | Deltha O'Neal | 46 KR, 24.0 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | Deltha O'Neal | 34 PR, 10.4 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Frank Bush, special teams; Larry Coyer, LBs; Rick Dennison, OL; Karl Dorrell, WRs; George Dyer, DL; David Gibbs, safeties; Gary Kubiak, offensive coordinator/QBs; Anthony Lynn, special teams; Ron Milus, DBs; Brian Pariani, TEs; Ray Rhodes, defensive coordinator; John Teerlinck, pass rush; Bobby Turner, RBs; Rich Tuten, strength and conditioning; Steve Watson, def. asst.

year the Broncos lost QB Brian Griese for six games and played most of the season without their top two running backs, but still ranked second in the league in rushing, third in passing and second in scoring.

The O-line, which has long been the heart of this team, will have to make due without coach Alex Gibbs—at least part of the time. Gibbs retired, but said he plans to spend two days a week assisting new coach Rick Dennison.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 10 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 9:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Indianapolis | 1:00 |
| Sept. 23 | at Arizona | 8:30 |
| Sept. 30 | BALTIMORE | 4:15 |
| Oct. 7 | KANSAS CITY | 4:05 |
| Oct. 14 | at Seattle | 4:15 |
| Oct. 21 | at San Diego | 4:05 |
| Oct. 28 | NEW ENGLAND | 4:15 |
| Nov. 5 | at Oakland | 9:00 |
| Nov. 11 | SAN DIEGO | 4:05 |
| Nov. 18 | WASHINGTON | 4:15 |
| Nov. 22 | at Dallas | 4:05 |
| Dec. 2 | at Miami | 1:00 |
| Dec. 9 | SEATTLE | 8:30 |
| Dec. 16 | at Kansas City | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | Open Date | |
| Dec. 30 | OAKLAND | 4:15 |

INVESCO FIELD AT MILE HIGH (76,125)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

11-5, 2nd in AFC West

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 4 | at St. Louis | L, 36-41 |
| Sept. 10 | ATLANTA | W, 42-14 |
| Sept. 17 | at Oakland | W, 33-24 |
| Sept. 24 | KANSAS CITY | L, 22-23 |
| Oct. 1 | NEW ENGLAND | L, 19-28 |
| Oct. 8 | at San Diego | W, 21-7 |
| Oct. 15 | CLEVELAND | W, 44-10 |
| Oct. 22 | at Cincinnati | L, 21-31 |
| Nov. 5 | at New York Jets | W, 30-23 |
| Nov. 13 | OAKLAND | W, 27-24 |
| Nov. 19 | SAN DIEGO | W, 38-37 |
| Nov. 26 | at Seattle | W, 38-31 |
| Dec. 3 | at New Orleans | W, 38-23 |
| Dec. 10 | SEATTLE | W, 31-24 |
| Dec. 17 | at Kansas City | L, 7-20 |
| Dec. 23 | SAN FRANCISCO | W, 38-9 |
| Dec. 31 | at Baltimore* | L, 3-21 |

* AFC Wild Card

**Quarterback** Griese had surgery on his throwing shoulder for the second consecutive off-season, but he's expected to be at full strength by training camp. He appeared in 10 games last year and completed 64.3% of his passes, throwing 19 TDs and only four picks for an NFL-best 102.9 passer rating.

The team felt good enough about Griese's physical condition that it signed him to a six-year, $39 million contract in April. But Denver also is siding with caution. Not only did the Broncos bring back Gus Frerotte, who has started six games the last two seasons, but they were considering signing Carolina castoff Steve Beuerlein to vie for the role of Griese's backup.

**Running Backs** What is with the Broncos and running backs? When league MVP Terrell Davis went down with a knee injury in 1999, then-rookie Olandis Gary stepped in and rushed for 1,159 yards. When Davis and Gary went down with leg and knee injuries, respectively, last year, sixth-round draftee Mike Anderson moved up and rushed for 1,500 yards.

Denver looked to deal one of the three during the off-season, but hadn't made a move by press time. (It could be that opposing teams credit the system, not the players, for the rushing success.) If all three return and head into training camp in shape, look for Shanahan to make the most of it. Davis may start, but Shanahan won't let Anderson and Gary rot on the sidelines.

Whoever carries the ball follows the blocks of fullback Howard Griffith, a mainstay in Denver's ground game for four years. The hotly-pursued free agent signed a three-year deal to stay.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Ed McCaffrey and Rod Smith became just the second tandem in league history to catch 100 passes each in the same season. McCaffrey's 101 catches set a new team high, and Smith broke a team record with 1,602 yards receiving.

## 2000 BRONCOS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 410.4 (2) | 145.3 (2) | 265.2 (3) | 30.3 (2) | 21 (3) | 28 (6t) | 4.5 (6) | 12.6 (4t) | 30 (8) | 383 (1) | 44.5 (4) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 346.5 (24) | 99.9 (7) | 246.6 (31) | 23.1 (23) | 13 (16t) | 26 (27t) | 4.6 (28t) | 13.5 (31) | 44 (9) | 27 (2) | 19 (2) |

## 2001 BRONCOS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | Frerotte, Gus | 6'3" | 225 | 30 | 7 | Tulsa |
| 14 | Griese, Brian | 6'3" | 215 | 26 | 3 | Michigan |
| 17 | Jackson, Jarious | 6'0" | 228 | 24 | 1 | Notre Dame |
| 10 | Stenstrom, Steve | 6'2" | 202 | 29 | 6 | Stanford |

### RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 38 | Anderson, Mike | 6'0" | 230 | 27 | 1 | Utah |
| 37 | Carter, Tony (FB) | 6'0" | 235 | 28 | 8 | Minnesota |
| 21 | Coleman, KaRon | 5'7" | 198 | 23 | 1 | SF Austin |
| 30 | Davis, Terrell | 5'11" | 210 | 28 | 6 | Georgia |
| 22 | Gary, Olandis | 5'11" | 218 | 26 | 2 | Georgia |
| 29 | Griffith, Howard (FB) | 6'0" | 240 | 33 | 8 | Illinois |
| 42 | Smith, Detron (FB) | 5'10" | 230 | 27 | 5 | Texas A&M |

### RECEIVERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 89 | Carswell, Dwayne (TE) | 6'3" | 260 | 29 | 7 | Liberty |
| 88 | Clark, Desmond (TE) | 6'3" | 255 | 24 | 2 | Wake Forest |
| 84 | Cole, Chris | 6'0" | 195 | 23 | 1 | Texas A&M |
| 49 | Dominguez, Matt | 6'2" | 219 | 23 | 1 | Sam Houston St. |
| 85 | Fields, Chafie | 6'1" | 200 | 24 | 1 | Penn State |
| 86 | Hape, Patrick (TE) | 6'4" | 262 | 27 | 4 | Alabama |
| 15 | Kasper, Kevin | 6'0" | 193 | 23 | R | Iowa |
| 11 | Kennison, Eddie | 6'0" | 198 | 28 | 6 | LSU |
| 87 | McCaffrey, Ed | 6'5" | 215 | 33 | 10 | Stanford |
| 83 | McGriff, Travis | 5'8" | 185 | 25 | 2 | Florida |
| 82 | Miller, Billy (TE) | 6'3" | 230 | 24 | 2 | USC |
| 81 | Montgomery, Scottie | 6'1" | 195 | 23 | 1 | Duke |
| 80 | Smith, Rod | 6'0" | 200 | 31 | 6 | MO Southern |
| 13 | Thelwell, Ryan | 6'2" | 188 | 28 | 3 | Minnesota |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 66 | Brooks, Ethan (T) | 6'6" | 297 | 29 | 4 | Williams |
| 65 | Carlisle, Cooper (G) | 6'5" | 295 | 24 | 1 | Florida |
| 74 | Feugill, John (T) | 6'7" | 308 | 25 | 1 | Maryland |
| 67 | Fordham, Todd (T) | 6'5" | 307 | 27 | 5 | Florida State |
| 64 | Friedman, Lennie (C) | 6'3" | 285 | 24 | 2 | Duke |
| 50 | Hamilton, Ben (C) | 6'4" | 283 | 23 | R | Minnesota |
| 73 | Herndon, Steve (G) | 6'3" | 288 | 24 | 1 | Georgia |
| 60 | Jones, K.C. (C) | 6'1" | 275 | 27 | 4 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 78 | Lepsis, Matt (T) | 6'4" | 290 | 27 | 4 | Colorado |
| 77 | McCaffrey, Brent (T) | 6'5" | 275 | 23 | R | USC |
| 66 | Nalen, Tom (C) | 6'3" | 286 | 30 | 7 | Boston College |
| 62 | Neil, Dan (G) | 6'2" | 285 | 27 | 4 | Texas |
| 72 | Neujahr, Quentin (C) | 6'4" | 295 | 30 | 7 | Kansas State |
| 63 | Ostrowski, Phil (G) | 6'4" | 291 | 25 | 4 | Penn State |
| 71 | Ruhman, Chris (T) | 6'5" | 321 | 26 | 3 | Texas A&M |
| 70 | Teague, Trey (T) | 6'5" | 292 | 26 | 3 | Tennessee |
| 75 | Young, Donnie (G) | 6'3" | 315 | 27 | 1 | Florida |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 92 | Archambeau, Lester (E) | 6'5" | 275 | 34 | 11 | Stanford |
| 79 | Berry, Bert (E) | 6'3" | 250 | 26 | 3 | Notre Dame |
| 69 | Hayward, Reggie (E) | 6'4" | 252 | 22 | R | Iowa State |
| 96 | Hasselbach, Harald (E) | 6'6" | 285 | 33 | 7 | Washington |
| 90 | Johnson, Jerry (T) | 6'0" | 290 | 24 | 1 | Florida State |
| 77 | Krick, Jon (T) | 6'2" | 280 | 28 | R | Purdue |
| 94 | Lett, Leon (E) | 6'6" | 290 | 32 | 10 | Emporia State |
| 75 | McGlockton, Chester (T) | 6'4" | 329 | 31 | 10 | Clemson |
| 95 | Pittman, Kavika (E) | 6'6" | 273 | 26 | 5 | McNeese State |
| 93 | Pryce, Trevor (T) | 6'5" | 295 | 26 | 4 | Clemson |
| 99 | Reagor, Montae (E) | 6'2" | 280 | 24 | 2 | Texas Tech |
| 98 | Tanuvasa, Maa (T) | 6'2" | 270 | 30 | 7 | Hawaii |
| 68 | Toviessi, Paul (E) | 6'6" | 254 | 23 | R | Marshall |
| 97 | Washington, Keith (E) | 6'4" | 275 | 28 | 7 | UNLV |

### LINEBACKERS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | Burns, Keith | 6'2" | 235 | 29 | 7 | Oklahoma St. |
| 59 | Crockett, Henri | 6'2" | 238 | 27 | 5 | Florida State |
| 52 | Gold, Ian | 6'0" | 223 | 23 | 1 | Michigan |
| 58 | London, Antonio | 6'2" | 238 | 30 | 8 | Alabama |
| 57 | McDonald, Ricardo | 6'2" | 252 | 31 | 9 | Pittsburgh |
| 51 | Mobley, John | 6'1" | 236 | 27 | 6 | Kutztown (Pa.) |
| 53 | Romanowski, Bill | 6'4" | 245 | 35 | 13 | Boston College |
| 56 | Wilson, Al | 6'0" | 240 | 24 | 2 | Tennessee |
| 54 | Woodall, Lee | 6'1" | 230 | 31 | 8 | West Chester |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 43 | Brown, DeAuntae | 5'11" | 195 | 27 | 2 | Central St. (Ohio) |
| 26 | Brown, Eric | 6'0" | 210 | 26 | 3 | Mississippi St. |
| 47 | Clark, Darius | 5'10" | 204 | 24 | 1 | Duke |
| 48 | Coghill, George | 6'0" | 210 | 31 | 4 | Wake Forest |
| 32 | Jenkins, Billy | 5'10" | 205 | 27 | 4 | Howard |
| 28 | Kennedy, Kenoy | 6'1" | 215 | 23 | 1 | Arkansas |
| 20 | Lewis, Darryll | 5'9" | 188 | 32 | 11 | Arizona |
| 34 | Marshall, Lemar | 6'2" | 208 | 24 | 1 | Michigan State |
| 23 | Middlebrooks, Willie | 6'1" | 192 | 22 | R | Minnesota |
| 24 | O'Neal, Deltha | 5'10" | 196 | 23 | 1 | California |
| 31 | Pounds, Darryl | 5'10" | 189 | 29 | 6 | Nicholls State |
| 33 | Spencer, Jimmy | 5'9" | 188 | 32 | 9 | Florida |
| 35 | Suttle, Jason | 5'10" | 182 | 26 | 2 | Wisconsin |
| 41 | Taylor, Cordell | 6'0" | 188 | 27 | 3 | Hampton |
| 25 | Walker, Denard | 6'1" | 190 | 28 | 4 | LSU |

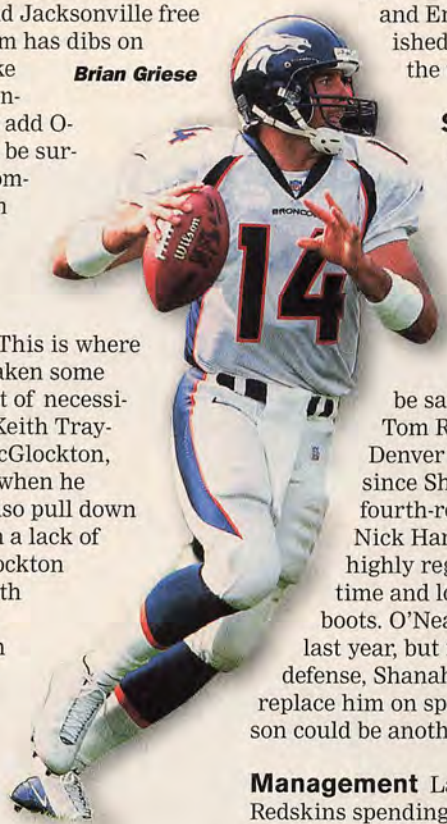
### SPECIALISTS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Elam, Jason (K) | 5'11" | 200 | 31 | 9 | Hawaii |
| 8 | Harris, Nick (P) | 6'1" | 221 | 25 | R | California |
| 2 | Lindsey, Steve (K) | 6'1" | 185 | 25 | 1 | Mississippi |
| 16 | Rouen, Tom (P) | 6'3" | 225 | 33 | 9 | Colorado |

The goal this off-season was to find a complementary third wideout, and Eddie Kennison might be that guy. He caught 55 passes for 549 yards and two touchdowns last season in a stumbling Chicago offense. Also keep an eye on rookie Kevin Kasper.

Tight end Shannon Sharpe was missed last year, but the Broncos have moved on with Dwayne Carswell and Desmond Clark.

**Offensive Line** Losing Gibbs won't be easy, but this unit could run smoothly on auto pilot. Tom Nalen is a Pro Bowler at center, Dan Neil is solid at right guard, and Matt Lepsis is making the switch from right tackle to left tackle, where he replaces the departed Tony Jones. Lennie Friedman could start at left guard, the slot vacated by retired Mark Schlereth, and Jacksonville free agent Todd Fordham has dibs on right tackle. But like many positions, Denver spent money to add O-line depth, so don't be surprised to see newcomers such as Quentin Neujahr and Phil Ostrowski in the fray a lot.



*Brian Griese*

**Defensive Line** This is where the Broncos have taken some gambles, mostly out of necessity. They'll replace Keith Traylor with Chester McGlockton, who can dominate when he wants to, but can also pull down his teammates with a lack of productivity. McGlockton will work inside with Trevor Pryce, who signed a $60 million deal in the off-season. Pryce is considered a harder worker than McGlockton, and few questioned paying him top coin.

Denver should be better on one end if Leon Lett stays healthy and trouble-free. Lett can embarrass an opposing offensive lineman, and he'll make right end Kavika Pittman that much better.

**Linebackers** Denver made it a mission to re-sign talented outside backer John Mobley, and it succeeded. He's gotten better each season, a path of improvement the Broncos hope Al Wilson follows. The Broncos also have signed linebackers Henri Crockett and Lee Woodall for additional depth.

The biggest question for the corps is whether 35-year-old Bill Romanowski can continue to play at his trademark high level. He's an energetic leader who thrives on emotion, and if he declines this season, it will undermine all the additions Denver has made to the rest of the defense.

**Defensive Backs** The secondary was horrible last season, which explains why starters Ray Crockett and Terrell Buckley have been replaced by free-agent Denard Walker, a standout from the Titans, and 2000 first-round draft choice Deltha O'Neal (though rookie Willie Middlebrooks could challenge for O'Neal's spot). Better play on the corners would ease the pressure on athletic safeties Billy Jenkins and Eric Brown, who finished 1-2, respectively, on the team in tackles.

**Special Teams** Kicker Jason Elam started out well but was erratic down the stretch. Though he hit just 5 of 10 FGs from 40 and out, Elam remains the best option.

The same can't be said of veteran punter Tom Rouen, whose days in Denver may be numbered since Shanahan used a fourth-round pick on Cal's Nick Harris. The rookie is highly regarded for the hang time and location he gets on his boots. O'Neal was a star returner last year, but if he plays more on defense, Shanahan may want to replace him on special teams. Kennison could be another return man.

**Management** Last year it was the Redskins spending money like water. This year, it's Denver, which dropped $42.2 million in signing bonuses alone to re-sign five players. The Broncos probably will kick off with a payroll in the $90 million range. At press time, 14 new free agents had been added, with the prospect of more to come.

Credit Shanahan and GM Neal Dahlen for shelling out the big bucks now before the team's salary cap situation gets too tight. This is a team that remembers what it takes to win a Super Bowl, with a coach who can do a lot with talent. And now he has a ton of it.

*—Jim Trotter*

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

In former Kansas City defensive lineman Chester McGlockton, the Broncos could have a very talented player—or a major headache.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

Denver christens its new home, Invesco Field at Mile High, with a Monday Night game (Sept. 10) against the Giants.

### KEY STAT

Denver's defense allowed an average of 5.8 yards per play last season, second-worst in the league. No wonder changes came swiftly.

### GLUE GUY

Center Tom Nalen was bothered in the off-season by back problems. Losing him could devastate the ground game.

*Tom Nalen*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 **Willie Middlebrooks** CB, Minnesota
Top corner on Denver's board; might start by midseason.

2 **Paul Toviessi** DE, Marshall
Potential is as large as his 6'6", 260-pound body.

3 **Reggie Hayward** DE, Iowa State
More athletic than Toviessi.

4 **Ben Hamilton** C, Minnesota
Will have a great teacher in Nalen.

4 **Nick Harris** P, California
In position to win job from veteran Tom Rouen.

6 **Kevin Kasper** WR, Iowa
Former walk-on had school-record 82 catches in 2000.

**B** Denver was big on Middlebrooks, and with its secondary woes of late, he was a sensible pick. Toviessi has a lot of upside as a pass rusher. Hayward is a physical player who had his way at the collegiate level. But he may not be the same type of player in the NFL, and some scouts had him rated lower than a third-rounder. Considering the wear and tear incurred by Denver's offensive line in recent seasons, the selection of Hamilton also made sense. In Nick Harris, the Broncos landed their punter of the future, and that may well begin in 2001. He has a really strong leg and also the soft touch to excel as a pooch punter. In Iowa's Kasper, Denver may have found a No. 3 or 4 wideout in passing sets. Considered a steal as a sixth-rounder, he reminds scouts of a young Ricky Proehl.

NFL (NALEN); DAVID DUROCHIK/SPORTPICS

# San Diego CHARGERS

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** Flutie is 21-9 as a starter the past three years. | 6 |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** Tomlinson has ability; now he must prove himself. | 6 |
| **RECEIVERS:** They finally have a QB who can deliver the ball. | 6 |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** Inexperienced and unproven at LG and RT. | 4 |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** Has the potential to be excellent. | 7 |
| **LINEBACKERS:** When tackled, opposing RBs still Say Ow. | 6 |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Newcomers McNeil, Molden bring respectability. | 6 |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** Which Wade Richey will show up? | 7 |
| **MANAGEMENT:** On paper, Butler has made all the right moves. | 8 |
| **OVERALL:** One-win seasons are a thing of the past. | 6 |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**4th in AFC West**

## CHARGERS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Mike Riley (9-23 with San Diego)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | **Doug Flutie** (BUF) | 132-231, 1,700 yds, 8 TDs |
| RB | **LaDainian Tomlinson** (R) | 369 car, 2,158 yds, 22 TDs* |
| FB | **Fred McCrary** | 7 car, 8 yds, 0 TDs |
| WR | **Curtis Conway** | 53 rec, 712 yds, 5 TDs |
| WR | **Jeff Graham** | 55 rec, 907 yds, 4 TDs |
| TE | **Freddie Jones** | 71 rec, 766 yds, 5 TDs |
| LT | **Vaughn Parker** | 16 games, 16 starts |
| LG | **DeMingo Graham** | 14 games, 1 start |
| C | **Roman Fortin** | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RG | **Kendyl Jacox** | 16 games, 3 starts |
| RT | **Ed Ellis** (WAS) | 12 games, 0 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | **Marcellus Wiley** (BUF) | 65 tackles, 10.5 sacks |
| DT | **Jamal Williams** | 53 tackles, 1 sack |
| DT | **John Parrella** | 65 tackles, 7 sacks |
| DE | **Raylee Johnson** | DNP-INJURED |
| LB | **Gerald Dixon** | 62 tackles, 5 sacks |
| LB | **Orlando Ruff** | 68 tackles, 1 INT |
| LB | **Junior Seau** | 123 tackles, 3.5 sacks |
| CB | **Ryan McNeil** (DAL) | 77 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | **Alex Molden** (NO) | 33 tackles, 3 INTs |
| SS | **Rodney Harrison** | 127 tackles, 6 INTs |
| FS | **Rogers Beckett** | 39 tackles, 1 INT |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | **Wade Richey** (SF) | 43-45 XPs, 15-22 FGs |
| P | **Darren Bennett** | 92 punts, 46.2 avg |
| KR | **Ronney Jenkins** | 67 KR, 22.9 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | **Tim Dwight** (ATL) | 33 PR, 9.4 avg, 1 TD |

New acquisitions in **Blue**; * 2000 college stats

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Mark Banker, DBs; Joe Bugel, OL; Paul Chryst, TEs; Craig Dickenson, off. asst.; John Hastings, strength and conditioning; Mike Johnson, QBs; Andrew McClave, DBs; Wayne Nunnely, DL; Joe Pascale, defensive coordinator; Rod Perry, DBs; Bruce Read, special teams; Mike Sanford, WRs; Norv Turner, offensive coordinator; Jim Vechiarella, LBs; Ollie Wilson, RBs

# GM Butler puts charge into lackluster squad

The Chargers personified ineptitude last season. They couldn't run the ball or stop the pass, and they held onto leads as successfully as their turnover-prone offense held onto the ball. The result was the worst season in franchise history, a 1-15 disaster that included a club-record 11 consecutive losses to open the year.

Team president Dean Spanos wasted no time setting sail in another direction, firing his top two personnel people immediately after the season and hiring respected general manager John Butler from Buffalo. Then he watched Butler go to work restocking the roster. His biggest move, of course, was trading the No. 1 overall selection in the draft for three picks and Tim Dwight.

In his first few months, Butler released five players who combined to start 45 games last year, including controversial quarterback Ryan Leaf, the No. 2 choice in the 1998 draft. Butler brought in proven veterans such as defensive end Marcellus Wiley, quarterback Doug Flutie and cornerbacks Ryan McNeil and Alex Molden.

EZRA SHAW/ALLSPORT

*First-rounder Tomlinson is San Diego's first legit rushing threat since Natrone Means.*

The new GM also hired Norv Turner, the former Redskins head coach and a respected offensive coordinator. His charge is to put life into a unit that, overall, has ranked among the bottom seven in the league in each of the past five seasons.

All the new faces have brought new hope. There's talk that the Chargers were not as bad as their 2000 record indicated. (They did, after all, lose six contests by three points or less. They also had the lead in the final three minutes of seven games.) Now we'll see if the optimism is warranted.

## 2001 SCHEDULE

All Times Eastern

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | WASHINGTON | 4:15 |
| Sept. 16 | Open Date | |
| Sept. 23 | at Dallas | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | Cincinnati | 4:15 |
| Oct. 7 | at Cleveland | 1:00 |
| Oct. 14 | at New England | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | DENVER | 4:05 |
| Oct. 28 | BUFFALO | 4:15 |
| Nov. 4 | KANSAS CITY | 4:15 |
| Nov. 11 | at Denver | 4:05 |
| Nov. 18 | at Oakland | 4:05 |
| Nov. 25 | ARIZONA | 4:05 |
| Dec. 2 | at Seattle | 4:05 |
| Dec. 9 | at Philadelphia | 1:00 |
| Dec. 15 | OAKLAND | 4:00 |
| Dec. 23 | at Kansas City | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | SEATTLE | 4:15 |

QUALCOMM STADIUM (71,000)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS

1-15, 5th in AFC WEST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | at Oakland | L, 6-9 |
| Sept. 10 | NEW ORLEANS | L, 27-28 |
| Sept. 17 | at Kansas City | L, 10-42 |
| Sept. 24 | SEATTLE | L, 12-20 |
| Oct. 1 | at St. Louis | L, 31-57 |
| Oct. 8 | DENVER | L, 7-21 |
| Oct. 15 | at Buffalo | L, 24-27 |
| Oct. 29 | OAKLAND | L, 13-15 |
| Nov. 5 | at Seattle | L, 15-17 |
| Nov. 12 | MIAMI | L, 7-17 |
| Nov. 19 | at Denver | L, 37-38 |
| Nov. 26 | KANSAS CITY | W, 17-16 |
| Dec. 3 | SAN FRANCISCO | L, 17-45 |
| Dec. 10 | at Baltimore | L, 3-24 |
| Dec. 17 | at Carolina | L, 22-30 |
| Dec. 24 | PITTSBURGH | L, 3-21 |

**Quarterbacks** Flutie is the most established starter the Chargers have had since Stan Humphries in 1997. Flutie turns 39 in October, but age has yet to slow him down. With Buffalo the past three years, Flutie tossed more TDs than interceptions in each season and posted a 21-9 record as a starter. That efficiency is exactly what the Chargers need, having led the league in interceptions in two of the last three years.

In the wake of the Leaf escapades, a mature, intelligent, scrappy signal-caller such as Flutie is a welcome change. It's also a terrific environment for second-round draft pick Drew Brees to learn about life in the NFL.

**Running Backs** LaDainian Tomlinson is the first legitimate rushing threat the Chargers have had since Natrone Means. And the TCU product arrives not a moment too soon. The Chargers averaged a league-low 66.4 yards per game on the ground last season, and they haven't had a back rush for more than 400 yards in either of the last two seasons.

Tomlinson, who will start immediately, led the nation in rushing the past two years and concluded his career as the Western Athletic Conference's all-time leading rusher (5,263 yards). At 220 pounds, he's a powerful runner who uses tremendous leg and hip strength to break tackles. At the same time, he has terrific field vision and balance so that if a small hole opens, he can exploit it in a wink and take off sprinting.

San Diego also still has Jermaine Fazande, Terrell Fletcher—he was re-signed after initially being cut—and pounding fullback Fred McCrary, who will clear space for Tomlinson.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** The Chargers are expecting big years from wideouts Curtis Conway and Jeff Graham. The two had problems with injuries last season, and neither developed much rapport with any of San Diego's quarterbacks. Graham has led the team in receiving yards the past two years, but that could change if Conway isn't hindered by hamstring problems that slowed the ex-Bear last season.

Expect tight end Freddie Jones to build on a breakout 2000. Turner likes to get his tight ends involved in the passing game, and Flutie was never shy in looking for Bills tight end Jay Riemersma. Jones' receiving skills decrease the pressure on Turner to find a reliable third wideout, though new addition Dwight can fly and would add

## 2000 CHARGERS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 268.8 (28) | 66.4 (31) | 202.4 (18) | 16.8 (26) | 7 (26t) | 19 (17t) | 3.0 (31) | 11.4 (15t) | 53 (26t) | 251 (28t) | 32.9 (27) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 309.9 (13) | 88.9 (4) | 221.1 (22) | 27.5 (29) | 10 (10t) | 33 (31) | 3.0 (2) | 11.6 (18t) | 39 (17) | 16 (18t) | -28 (31) |

## 2001 CHARGERS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | Brees, Drew | 6'0" | 221 | 22 | R | Purdue |
| 7 | Flutie, Doug | 5'10" | 180 | 38 | 8 | Boston College |
| 12 | Hendricks, Bart | 6'0" | 212 | 23 | R | Boise State |
| 13 | Moreno, Moses | 6'1" | 205 | 25 | 4 | Colorado State |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 | Fazande, Jermaine (FB) | 6'2" | 255 | 26 | 3 | Oklahoma |
| 41 | Fletcher, Terrell | 5'8" | 196 | 27 | 7 | Wisconsin |
| 28 | Jenkins, Ronney | 5'11" | 188 | 24 | 2 | Northern Arizona |
| 44 | McCrary, Fred (FB) | 6'0" | 235 | 28 | 5 | Mississippi St. |
| 48 | Sikyala, Mukala | 5'8" | 211 | 22 | R | Maryland |
| 21 | Tomlinson, LaDainian | 5'10" | 221 | 22 | R | TCU |
| 26 | Witherspoon, Terry (FB) | 5'11" | 250 | 24 | R | Clemson |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 36 | Batteaux, Pat | 6'0" | 195 | 23 | 1 | TCU |
| 50 | Binn, David (TE-LS) | 6'3" | 245 | 29 | 8 | California |
| 80 | Conway, Curtis | 6'1" | 196 | 30 | 8 | USC |
| 84 | Davis, Reggie (TE) | 6'3" | 233 | 24 | 3 | Washington |
| 83 | Dwight, Tim | 5'8" | 180 | 26 | 4 | Iowa |
| 82 | Gaylor, Trevor | 6'3" | 195 | 23 | 2 | Miami (Ohio) |
| 81 | Graham, Jeff | 6'2" | 206 | 32 | 11 | Ohio State |
| 83 | Heiden, Steve (TE) | 6'5" | 270 | 24 | 3 | South Dakota St. |
| 88 | Jones, Freddie (TE) | 6'5" | 270 | 26 | 5 | North Carolina |
| 87 | Jones, Reggie | 6'0" | 195 | 30 | 2 | LSU |
| 46 | Maurer, Martin (TE) | 6'4" | 260 | 22 | R | Oregon State |
| 10 | Pitts, DeRonnie | 5'11" | 195 | 23 | R | Stanford |
| 17 | Williams, Rodney | 6'1" | 190 | 28 | 4 | Arizona |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 69 | Ellis, Ed (T) | 6'7" | 330 | 25 | 5 | Buffalo |
| 67 | Fortin, Roman (C) | 6'5" | 297 | 34 | 12 | San Diego St. |
| 73 | Gorin, Brandon (T) | 6'6" | 304 | 23 | R | Purdue |
| 71 | Graham, DeMingo (G) | 6'3" | 310 | 27 | 3 | Hofstra |
| 64 | Jacox, Kendyl (C-G) | 6'2" | 330 | 26 | 4 | Kansas State |
| 77 | McIntosh, Damion (T) | 6'4" | 325 | 24 | 2 | Kansas State |
| 70 | Parker, Vaughn (T) | 6'3" | 300 | 30 | 8 | UCLA |
| 74 | Roundtree, Raleigh (G-T) | 6'4" | 295 | 26 | 5 | S. Carolina St. |
| 68 | Silvers, Elliot (T) | 6'7" | 320 | 23 | R | Washington |
| 65 | Stuber, Tim (G) | 6'4" | 315 | 23 | R | Colorado State |
| 63 | Thomas, Jason (C-G) | 6'3" | 300 | 24 | 1 | Hampton |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 96 | Carson, Leonardo (E-T) | 6'2" | 285 | 24 | 2 | Auburn |
| 90 | Dingle, Adrian (E) | 6'3" | 272 | 24 | 3 | Clemson |
| 95 | Fontenot, Albert (E) | 6'4" | 287 | 31 | 9 | Baylor |
| 99 | Johnson, Raylee (E) | 6'3" | 272 | 31 | 9 | Arkansas |
| 98 | Mohring, Mike (E-T) | 6'5" | 295 | 27 | 5 | Pittsburgh |
| 97 | Parrella, John (E-T) | 6'3" | 300 | 31 | 9 | Nebraska |
| 91 | Pringley, Mike (E) | 6'4" | 277 | 25 | 3 | North Carolina |
| 78 | Scott, DeQuincy (T) | 6'1" | 283 | 23 | R | Southern Miss |
| 75 | Wiley, Marcellus (E) | 6'4" | 275 | 26 | 5 | Columbia |
| 76 | Williams, Jamal (T) | 6'3" | 305 | 25 | 4 | Oklahoma St. |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 51 | Dixon, Gerald | 6'3" | 250 | 32 | 9 | South Carolina |
| 58 | Guenther, Eric | 6'2" | 240 | 24 | 1 | Illinois |
| 53 | Humphrey, Deon | 6'3" | 240 | 25 | 2 | Florida State |
| 57 | Moreno, Zeke | 6'2" | 245 | 22 | R | USC |
| 52 | Polk, Carlos | 6'2" | 250 | 24 | R | Nebraska |
| 56 | Ruff, Orlando | 6'3" | 247 | 24 | 3 | Furman |
| 55 | Seau, Junior | 6'3" | 250 | 32 | 12 | USC |
| 94 | Taylor, Shannon | 6'3" | 247 | 26 | 2 | Virginia |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 42 | Beckett, Rogers | 6'3" | 205 | 24 | 2 | Marshall |
| 24 | Brown, Fakhir | 5'11" | 192 | 23 | 3 | Grambling |
| 30 | Carswell, Robert | 5'11" | 215 | 22 | R | Clemson |
| 27 | Cody, Tay | 5'8" | 180 | 23 | R | Florida State |
| 37 | Harrison, Rodney | 6'1" | 207 | 29 | 8 | Western Illinois |
| 29 | Hatcher, Armon | 6'0" | 212 | 25 | 2 | Oregon State |
| 47 | McNeil, Ryan | 6'2" | 192 | 30 | 9 | Miami (Fla.) |
| 25 | Molden, Alex | 5'10" | 190 | 28 | 6 | Oregon |
| 39 | Moore, Keon | 5'11" | 196 | 23 | R | Southern Miss |
| 31 | Perry, Jason | 6'0" | 200 | 25 | 3 | N.C. State |
| 33 | Sanchez, Davis | 5'10" | 180 | 27 | 1 | Oregon |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Bennett, Darren (P) | 6'5" | 235 | 26 | 7 | No College |
| 5 | Richey, Wade (K) | 6'3" | 205 | 25 | 4 | LSU |

another needed scoring threat to San Diego's lineup.

**Offensive Line** This unit struggled at times, and at press time no significant additions had been made. Rather than change players, the team has had the players change positions. Vaughn Parker is moving from right tackle to left tackle and Kendyl Jacox from left guard to right guard. Roman Fortin will remain at center.

Newcomer Ed Ellis is penciled in as the starter at right tackle, but the fifth-year pro's résumé features more teams (three) than starts (one). The club was hoping to re-sign free agent Ben Coleman and use him at left guard, but at press time the sides had not yet come to terms. Look for the Chargers to sign another veteran if they cannot re-sign Coleman.

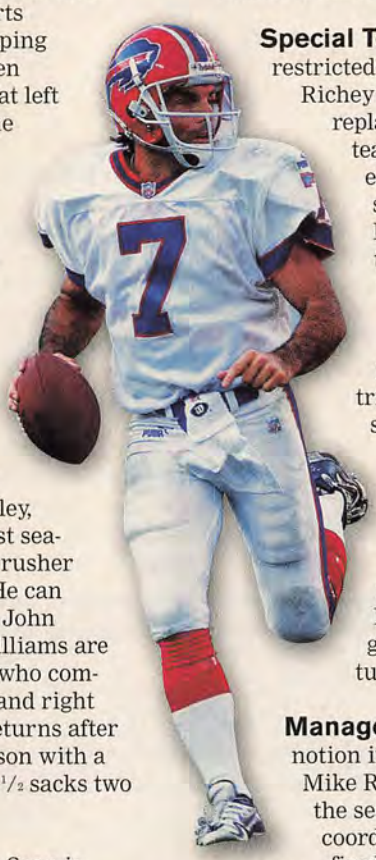
**Defensive Line** With the free-agent signing of left end Wiley from Buffalo, this becomes the defense's most talented unit. Wiley, who had 10½ sacks last season, is a budding pass rusher who is still learning. He can only improve. Tackles John Parrella and Jamal Williams are excellent run stuffers who combined for eight sacks, and right end Raylee Johnson returns after missing all of last season with a knee injury. He had 10½ sacks two years ago.

**Linebackers** Junior Seau is Junior Seau. The Pro Bowler is getting older, but you wouldn't know it by the intensity he continues to bring on Sundays. Still, it's no secret that as a whole the Chargers need to get younger and more athletic at linebacker.

Enter rookies Carlos Polk and Zeke Moreno. Polk, an explosive hitter with the skills to play outside but the temperament for the inside, could give Orlando Ruff a run for the starting job in the middle. Moreno, younger brother of Chargers backup QB Moses Moreno, has the talent to see some time on the strong side. He's also a long snapper.

**Defensive Backs** After allowing a league-high 33 touchdown passes, including five each in three different games, the Chargers dumped nearly all their cornerbacks, including high-priced 1999 addition DeRon Jenkins. Free-agent signees McNeil and Molden will start, and rookie Tay Cody will battle Fakhir Brown and Davis Sanchez for the third spot.

Strong safety Rodney Harrison, one of the best in the league, led the team in tackles (127), INTs (six) and passes defensed (17), while tying for second in sacks (six). Free safety Michael Dumas was released to clear room for second-year man Rogers Beckett, who is more skilled at making plays against the pass.



*Doug Flutie*

**Special Teams** San Francisco restricted free-agent kicker Wade Richey was brought in to replace John Carney, the team's all-time leading scorer. The Chargers wanted someone with a stronger leg on kickoffs because they plan to play a field-position, ball-control game.

Punter Darren Bennett earned his second trip to the Pro Bowl last season when his 46.2-yard average broke the team record of 45.6 yards he set in 1996. Dwight's arrival can do wonders for the punt-return game, providing he's O.K. following surgery in May to fix a ruptured bursa in his knee.

**Management** A popular notion in San Diego is that coach Mike Riley is simply keeping the seat warm for offensive coordinator Turner, who was fired as Washington's head man late last season. Turner has been given complete control of the offense just two seasons after Riley was brought in to oversee the unit, and he is under contract for one more year than Riley, whose deal expires after the 2003 season. All the assistant coaches are in the final years of their deals, save for Turner, and if the team doesn't make dramatic strides this year, there's a chance everyone but Turner could be blown out.

Riley got the team to 8-8 in his first season—a year after it finished 5-11—so he has proved he can turn things around. Now he needs to do it again. Otherwise the Chargers could have their fifth head coach in seven years.

*—Jim Trotter*

NFL (SEAU); ROB BROWN/SPORTPICS

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

QB Doug Flutie doesn't have to look over his shoulder for the first time in his NFL career. Will he lack the edge that has made him successful?

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

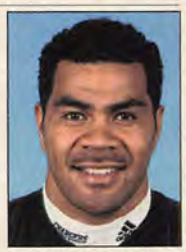
When the Bills come to town Oct. 28, it's Flutie versus former teammate Rob Johnson. Also, Bills owner Ralph Wilson badly wants to beat ex-Buffalo/current San Diego GM John Butler.

### KEY STAT

As a group, Chargers QBs have thrown more interceptions than touchdowns in each of the last four seasons.

### GLUE GUY

Through ups and downs, Junior Seau has been a rock of consistency. He still has plenty to teach the youngsters.



*Junior Seau*

## THE DRAFT BOARD

RD Name, Position, School

1 LaDainian Tomlinson RB, TCU
Led nation in rushing in each of the past two seasons.

2 Drew Brees QB, Purdue
He isn't Michael Vick, but he can really chuck the football.

3 Tay Cody CB, Florida State
Could see immediate action in a nickel package.

4 Carlos Polk LB, Nebraska
Will have a shot to start on rushing downs.

5 Elliot Silvers OT, Washington
Reminds some of Kevin Gogan, only more athletic.

5 Zeke Moreno LB, USC
Lacks speed, but makes up for it by making plays.

7 Brandon Gorin OT, Purdue
Boilermaker is a project at this point.

7 Robert Carswell S, Clemson
Could contribute on special teams in 2001.

**B+** John Butler got exactly what he wanted out of the trade with Atlanta that gave the Falcons the No. 1 pick. San Diego wound up with the top running back in the draft (Tomlinson), and the one quarterback (Brees) the Chargers actually preferred over Michael Vick. Butler, the ex-Buffalo GM, hopes Tomlinson can become San Diego's version of Thurman Thomas. Day 2 of the draft was not as productive. Carlos Polk could have been overrated, and neither Gorin nor Silvers is NFL-ready. Carswell had a better junior year than senior year.

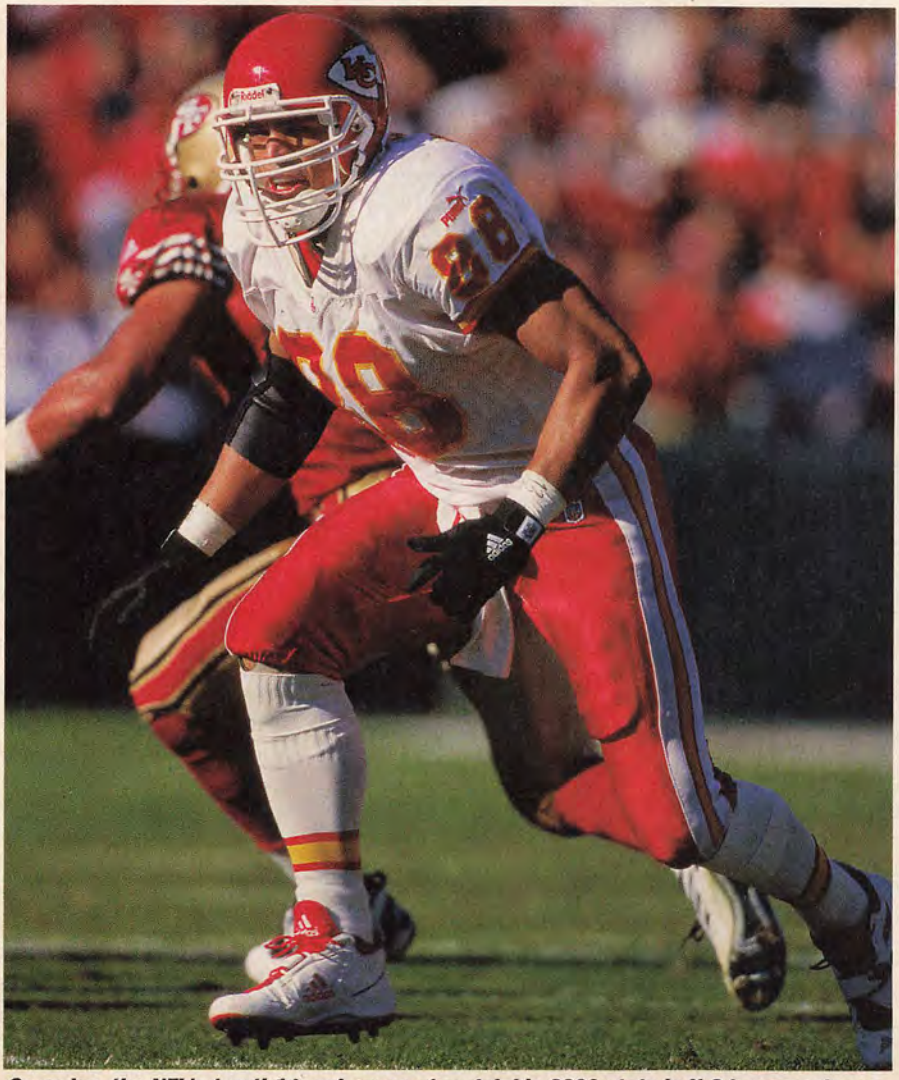
# Kansas City CHIEFS

# Vermeil set to perform third rebuilding project

The Chiefs were the only team to lose to the woeful San Diego Chargers last season, which helps explain why general manager Carl Peterson overhauled the coaching staff and his team's offense in the off-season. But even more instrumental in the push for change was Kansas City's 7-9 record, which kept the Chiefs out of the playoffs for a second straight year.

Charged with lifting this still-proud organization back to its AFC West title contender days is Dick Vermeil, a long-time friend of Peterson's who decided he really wasn't ready to retire after all. Vermeil, who walked away from the NFL two seasons ago after his St. Louis Rams won Super Bowl XXXIV, has reversed fortunes before. He made winners of perennial losers in Philadelphia and St. Louis, and now Peterson expects nothing less than a third successful reclamation project.

This one, however, will not be easy. Vermeil's offensive coordinator, Al Saunders, has ideas of grandeur for his quick-strike, vertical-game offense. But most current offensive personnel don't



JED JACOBSOHN/ALLSPORT

***Gonzalez, the NFL's top tight end, may not match his 2000 stats in K.C.'s new scheme.***

## PREVIEW SPORTS Scouting Report

ratings from 1 to 10 range from awful to awesome

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUARTERBACKS:** | **7** |
| Green needs more than one good leg to stand on. | |
| **RUNNING BACKS:** | **5** |
| Can hard-nosed Holmes hold his own as starter? | |
| **RECEIVERS:** | **7** |
| Alexander, Morris are an underrated tandem. | |
| **OFFENSIVE LINE:** | **7** |
| Can pass block, but run surge must improve. | |
| **DEFENSIVE LINE:** | **6** |
| Injuries could be unit's biggest enemy. | |
| **LINEBACKERS:** | **6** |
| Plans to turn up heat by turning Edwards loose. | |
| **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** | **4** |
| Must allow fewer than 25 passing TDs this year. | |
| **SPECIAL TEAMS:** | **5** |
| Need to be more consistent. | |
| **MANAGEMENT:** | **7** |
| Vermeil's résumé speaks for itself. | |
| **OVERALL:** | **6** |
| Staring at a third straight year out of playoffs. | |

**PROJECTED FINISH**
**5th in AFC West**

## CHIEFS 2001 PROJECTED LINEUP

**COACH:** Dick Vermeil (1st year with Kansas City)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| QB | Trent Green (STL) | 145-240, 2,063 yds, 16 TDs |
| RB | Priest Holmes (BAL) | 137 car, 588 yds, 2 TDs |
| FB | Tony Richardson | 147 car, 697 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | Sylvester Morris | 48 rec, 678 yds, 3 TDs |
| WR | Derrick Alexander | 78 rec, 1,391 yds, 10 TDs |
| TE | Tony Gonzalez | 93 rec, 1,203 yds, 9 TDs |
| LT | John Tait | 15 games, 15 starts |
| LG | Jeff Blackshear | 16 games, 15 starts |
| C | Casey Wiegmann (CHI) | 16 games, 10 starts |
| RG | Will Shields | 16 games, 16 starts |
| RT | Victor Riley | 16 games, 16 starts |
| **DEFENSIVE STARTERS** | | |
| DE | Eric Hicks | 46 tackles, 14 sacks |
| DT | John Browning | 49 tackles, 6 sacks |
| DT | Dan Williams | 35 tackles, 7.5 sacks |
| DE | Duane Clemons | 56 tackles, 7.5 sacks |
| LB | Donnie Edwards | 132 tackles, 2 INTs |
| LB | Mike Maslowski | 41 tackles, 2 sacks |
| LB | Marvcus Patton | 111 tackles, 2 INTs |
| CB | Ray Crockett (DEN) | 38 tackles, 4 INTs |
| CB | Eric Warfield | 21 tackles, 0 INTs |
| SS | Greg Wesley | 85 tackles, 2 INTs |
| FS | Jerome Woods | 82 tackles, 2 INTs |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | |
| K | Todd Peterson | 25-25 XPs, 15-20 FGs |
| P | Dan Stryzinski (ATL) | 84 punts, 41.0 avg |
| KR | Tony Horne (STL) | 57 KR, 24.2 avg, 1 TD |
| PR | Dante Hall | 6 PR, 6.2 avg, 0 TDs |

New acquisitions in **Blue**

**ASSISTANT COACHES**

Frank Gansz Jr., special teams; Peter Giunta, DBs; Carl Hairston, DL; Jeff Hurd, strength and conditioning; Charlie Joiner, WRs; Bob Karmelowicz, DL; Greg Robinson, defensive coordinator; Keith Rowen, TEs; Al Saunders, offensive coordinator; James Saxon, RBs; Terry Shea, QBs; Mike Solari, OL; Jason Verduzco, off. asst.; Joe Vitt, LBs; Darvin Wallis, def. asst.

seem suited to that style of attack. Across the line, former Broncos defensive coordinator Greg Robinson is also thinking turnaround, but free agency and the draft did little to upgrade a unit that looks too old in some areas (line) and too young in others (cornerback).

**Quarterbacks** The passing game was one of the Chiefs' few bright spots last season, but after throwing for 4,169 yards and 28 touchdowns, quarterback Elvis Grbac bolted for Baltimore as a free agent. Following a period of unsuccessful trade negotiations, Vermeil finally landed Trent Green in a swap with St. Louis. (K.C. gave the Rams its first-round draft pick, No. 12 overall.) Green, 31, had become Kurt Warner's backup in St. Louis, but he did see a chunk of action last year while Warner was hurt.

An efficient, intelligent passer, Green tossed 16 TDs to only five INTs last season, connecting on 60.4% of his 240 pass attempts. He knows what Vermeil expects from the offense, and Green might be able to hold up his part in the scheme. The X-factor for him, though, is a lingering left knee injury. Green spent all of 1999 on IR after blowing out the knee in a preseason game, and he had follow-up surgery this off-season. As insurance, Kansas City signed 39-year-old veteran QB Bubby Brister, who has only 40 combined pass attempts the last two seasons.

## 2001 SCHEDULE
**All Times Eastern**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 9 | OAKLAND | 1:00 |
| Sept. 16 | at Seattle | 4:15 |
| Sept. 23 | NEW YORK GIANTS | 1:00 |
| Sept. 30 | at Washington | 1:00 |
| Oct. 7 | at Denver | 4:05 |
| Oct. 14 | PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| Oct. 21 | at Arizona | 4:00 |
| Oct. 28 | INDIANAPOLIS | 1:00 |
| Nov. 4 | at San Diego | 4:15 |
| Nov. 11 | at New York Jets | 1:00 |
| Nov. 18 | Open Date | |
| Nov. 25 | SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| Nov. 29 | PHILADELPHIA | 8:30 |
| Dec. 9 | at Oakland | 4:15 |
| Dec. 16 | DENVER | 1:00 |
| Dec. 23 | SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| Dec. 30 | at Jacksonville | 1:00 |

ARROWHEAD STADIUM (79,451)
Divisional opponents in Red

## 2000 RESULTS
**7-9, 3rd in AFC West**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 3 | INDIANAPOLIS | L, 14-27 |
| Sept. 10 | at Tennessee | L, 14-17 |
| Sept. 17 | SAN DIEGO | W, 42-10 |
| Sept. 24 | at Denver | W, 23-22 |
| Oct. 2 | SEATTLE | W, 24-17 |
| Oct. 15 | OAKLAND | L, 17-20 |
| Oct. 22 | ST. LOUIS | W, 54-34 |
| Oct. 29 | at Seattle | W, 24-19 |
| Nov. 5 | at Oakland | L, 31-49 |
| Nov. 12 | at San Francisco | L, 7-21 |
| Nov. 19 | BUFFALO | L, 17-21 |
| Nov. 26 | at San Diego | L, 16-17 |
| Dec. 4 | at New England | L, 24-30 |
| Dec. 10 | CAROLINA | W, 15-14 |
| Dec. 17 | DENVER | W, 20-7 |
| Dec. 24 | at Atlanta | L, 13-29 |

**Running Backs** The Chiefs will try to jump-start last year's 25th-ranked running game with ex-Raven Priest Holmes, a fifth-year pro who gained 588 yards last season but would have remained Jamal Lewis' backup had he stayed in Baltimore.

Kansas City plans to continue moving away from the inside power running game it used under Marty Schottenheimer, and Holmes will help that effort. He's relatively quick and, at 5'9", is tough for opposing linebackers to pick up darting through holes. Holmes also can be a pass-catching weapon out of the backfield.

If there's a concern, it's that the former Texas Longhorn hasn't been a featured back since 1998. That's where fullback Tony Richardson helps. He had more carries in 2000 than Holmes and had no problem with durability.

**Receivers/Tight Ends** Tony Gonzalez led all NFL tight ends in receptions (93), receiving yards (1,203) and TDs last year (nine). He fell three catches short of the NFL single-season record for tight ends. Gonzalez is a huge target with speed, tremendous hands and the ability to make defenders miss or bowl them over.

## 2000 CHIEFS TEAM STATS (NFL Rank)

| | Total YPG | Rush YPG | Pass YPG | Pts PG | Rush TDs | Pass TDs | Y/Carry | Y/Catch | Sacks | 1st Downs | 3rd Down % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OFFENSE | 350.9 (8) | 91.6 (25) | 259.3 (5) | 22.2 (9) | 12 (20) | 29 (5) | 3.8 (22t) | 12.9 (3) | 34 (10t) | 321 (6) | 36.8 (21) |
| | **Total YPG** | **Rush YPG** | **Pass YPG** | **Pts PG** | **Rush TDs** | **Pass TDs** | **Y/Carry** | **Y/Catch** | **Sacks** | **INTs** | **Take/Give** |
| DEFENSE | 330.8 (18) | 113.9 (17t) | 216.9 (20) | 22.1 (19) | 13 (16t) | 25 (23t) | 4.1 (15t) | 10.4 (2t) | 51 (4t) | 15 (21t) | 3 (11t) |

## 2001 CHIEFS PRESEASON ROSTER

### QUARTERBACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | Brister, Bubby | 6'3" | 212 | 39 | 15 | NE Louisiana |
| 15 | Collins, Todd | 6'4" | 227 | 29 | 7 | Michigan |
| 10 | Green, Trent | 6'3" | 215 | 31 | 8 | Indiana |
| 7 | Ornstein, Gus | 6'5" | 218 | 26 | 1 | Rowan |

### RUNNING BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29 | Blaylock, Derrick | 5'9" | 188 | 22 | R | S.F. Austin |
| 34 | Cloud, Mike | 5'10" | 205 | 26 | 3 | Boston College |
| 20 | Hall, Dante | 5'8" | 188 | 23 | 2 | Texas A&M |
| 31 | Holmes, Priest | 5'9" | 205 | 27 | 5 | Texas |
| 38 | Layne, George (FB) | 5'11" | 243 | 22 | R | TCU |
| 22 | Moreau, Frank | 6'0" | 223 | 24 | 2 | Louisville |
| 49 | Richardson, Tony (FB) | 6'1" | 233 | 29 | 7 | Auburn |
| 43 | Williams, Jermaine (FB) | 5'11" | 236 | 29 | 4 | Houston |

### RECEIVERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 82 | Alexander, Derrick | 6'2" | 210 | 29 | 8 | Michigan |
| 45 | Baber, Billy (TE) | 6'3" | 255 | 22 | R | Virginia |
| 89 | Dunn, Jason (TE) | 6'4" | 260 | 27 | 5 | Eastern Kentucky |
| 88 | Gonzalez, Tony (TE) | 6'4" | 249 | 25 | 5 | California |
| 17 | Hall, Ricky | 6'2" | 207 | 25 | 1 | Virginia Tech |
| 81 | Horne, Tony | 5'9" | 173 | 25 | 4 | Clemson |
| 5 | Klemic, Dave | 5'11" | 185 | 23 | R | Northeastern |
| 13 | Minnis, Marvin | 6'1" | 171 | 24 | R | Florida State |
| 84 | Morris, Sylvester | 6'3" | 206 | 23 | 2 | Jackson State |
| 9 | Moses, J.J. | 5'6" | 175 | 21 | R | Iowa State |
| 47 | Muther, Pete (TE) | 6'3" | 238 | 24 | 1 | Tulsa |
| 80 | Parker, Larry | 6'1" | 200 | 25 | 3 | USC |
| 12 | Perez, Joe | 6'0" | 202 | 24 | 1 | Murray State |
| 85 | Ricks, Mikhael | 6'5" | 237 | 26 | 4 | S.F. Austin |
| 11 | Simon, Geroy | 6'1" | 188 | 25 | 1 | Maryland |
| 87 | Thomas, Chris | 6'0" | 190 | 30 | 5 | Cal-Poly SLO |

### OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 72 | Alford, Darnell (T) | 6'4" | 334 | 24 | 2 | Boston College |
| 75 | Allen, Ian (G) | 6'4" | 305 | 23 | R | UCLA |
| 69 | Blackshear, Jeff (G) | 6'6" | 323 | 32 | 8 | NE Louisiana |
| 65 | Blick, John (T) | 6'6" | 315 | 23 | 1 | Penn State |
| 51 | Hunt, Robert (G) | 6'3" | 307 | 26 | 1 | Virginia |
| 73 | Jones, Willie (T) | 6'7" | 383 | 25 | 2 | Grambling |
| 67 | Kubik, Brad (G) | 6'3" | 299 | 26 | 3 | SW Missouri St. |
| 66 | Riley, Victor (T) | 6'5" | 334 | 26 | 4 | Auburn |
| 68 | Shields, Will (G) | 6'3" | 321 | 29 | 9 | Nebraska |
| 70 | Spears, Marcus (G/T) | 6'4" | 320 | 29 | 8 | Northwestern St. |
| 74 | Sulfsted, Alex (G) | 6'3" | 317 | 23 | R | Miami (Ohio) |
| 76 | Tait, John (T) | 6'6" | 305 | 26 | 3 | BYU |
| 54 | Waters, Brian (C) | 6'3" | 293 | 24 | 2 | North Texas |
| 62 | Wiegmann, Casey (C) | 6'3" | 285 | 26 | 5 | Iowa |
| 60 | Willis, Donald (G) | 6'3" | 348 | 28 | 4 | N. Carolina A&T |

### DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 71 | Beisel, Monty (E) | 6'3" | 270 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 93 | Browning, John (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 27 | 6 | West Virginia |
| 99 | Clemons, Duane (E) | 6'5" | 272 | 27 | 6 | California |
| 79 | Eric Downing (T) | 6'3" | 302 | 22 | R | Syracuse |
| 94 | Gholston, Kendrick (E) | 6'4" | 279 | 26 | 1 | Louisville |
| 98 | Hicks, Eric (E) | 6'6" | 278 | 25 | 4 | Maryland |
| 90 | Martin, Steve (T) | 6'4" | 303 | 27 | 5 | Missouri |
| 75 | McCleary, Norris (T) | 6'4" | 305 | 24 | 1 | East Carolina |
| 97 | Owens, Richard (E) | 6'6" | 275 | 29 | 7 | Lehigh |
| 95 | Ransom, Derrick (T) | 6'3" | 310 | 24 | 4 | Cincinnati |
| 73 | Sands, Terdell (T) | 6'7" | 330 | 21 | R | UT-Chattanooga |
| 65 | Threats, Jabbar (E) | 6'5" | 268 | 26 | 3 | Michigan State |
| 77 | Warren, Jesse (E) | 6'3" | 263 | 23 | 1 | Colorado |
| 64 | Washington, Thomas (T) | 6'3" | 332 | 24 | 1 | Winston-Salem St. |
| 92 | Williams, Dan (T) | 6'4" | 293 | 31 | 8 | Toledo |
| 96 | Williams, Tyrone (E) | 6'4" | 292 | 28 | 4 | Wyoming |

### LINEBACKERS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 | Atkins, Larry | 6'3" | 230 | 26 | 3 | UCLA |
| 56 | Bush, Lewis | 6'2" | 247 | 31 | 8 | Washington St. |
| 59 | Edwards, Donnie | 6'2" | 235 | 28 | 6 | UCLA |
| 91 | Jordan, Richard | 6'1" | 256 | 26 | 4 | MO Southern |
| 54 | Kazadi, Muadianvita | 6'2" | 240 | 27 | 2 | Tulsa |
| 57 | Maslowski, Mike | 6'1" | 246 | 27 | 3 | Wis.-LaCrosse |
| 52 | O'Neal, Andre | 6'1" | 235 | 25 | 2 | Marshall |
| 53 | Patton, Marvcus | 6'2" | 243 | 34 | 12 | UCLA |
| 51 | Robertson, Wes | 6'2" | 225 | 22 | R | Rutgers |
| 55 | Stills, Gary | 6'2" | 235 | 27 | 3 | West Virginia |
| 50 | Tisdale, Casey | 6'4" | 256 | 25 | 1 | New Mexico |

### DEFENSIVE BACKS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26 | Allen, Taje | 5'11" | 185 | 27 | 5 | Texas |
| 24 | Bartee, William | 6'1" | 190 | 24 | 2 | Oklahoma |
| 46 | Carter, Dyshod | 5'10" | 188 | 23 | R | Kansas State |
| 39 | Crockett, Ray | 5'10" | 184 | 34 | 13 | Baylor |
| 41 | Dennis, Pat | 6'0" | 202 | 23 | 2 | La.-Monroe |
| 23 | Gray, Carlton | 6'0" | 202 | 30 | 9 | UCLA |
| 42 | Harts, Shaunard | 5'11" | 195 | 23 | R | Boise State |
| 47 | McCullough, George | 5'10" | 187 | 26 | 4 | Baylor |
| 27 | Walker, Bracy | 6'0" | 206 | 31 | 8 | North Carolina |
| 44 | Warfield, Eric | 6'0" | 198 | 25 | 4 | Nebraska |
| 25 | Wesley, Greg | 6'2" | 214 | 23 | 2 | Ark.-Pine Bluff |
| 21 | Woods, Jerome | 6'2" | 202 | 28 | 6 | Memphis |

### SPECIALISTS

| No. | Player | Ht. | Wt. | Age | Exp. | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Peterson, Todd (K) | 5'10" | 177 | 31 | 7 | Georgia |
| 4 | Stryzinski, Dan (P) | 6'2" | 200 | 36 | 12 | Indiana |
| 1 | Tynes, Lawrence (K) | 6'0" | 188 | 23 | R | Troy State |

This season it may be difficult for Gonzalez to match his astronomical numbers, though. Saunders has never been one to use a tight end as the primary target, and that's just what Gonzalez has been for this team.

Fewer throws to Gonzalez would mean more balls headed toward Derrick Alexander and Sylvester Morris. Alexander is the best big-play receiver the Chiefs have, but a burner he's not. Same goes for Morris, who came on strong late last season.

It's possible ex-Ram Tony Horne, acquired in April, will get more playing time than ever before. He's a fleet-footed playmaker who knows the offensive principles being implemented. In St. Louis, he was buried on the receiver depth chart and made his mark returning kicks.

**Offensive Line** The Chiefs are solid at the tackle spots and can be even better at the guard slots with Will Shields and Jeff Blackshear. Signing center Casey Wiegmann from the Bears should help the run game, and that's the major call to arms for this unit. Too often last year the Chiefs were unable to establish the run, hence the 25th-best rushing offense and a 4,000-yard season for QB Grbac. Vermeil wants more balance, and he has the personnel to get it.

**Defensive Line** The biggest concern here is keeping everyone healthy. When John Browning, Duane Clemons, Eric Hicks and Dan Williams are at their best, the Chiefs boast a formidable front. The group combined for 35 sacks last season, including 14 by Hicks. That's a must-have pass rush on a team without an established rush linebacker. It's also a pass rush that suffered last year when Clemons, Hicks and Williams all spent time on IR.

**Linebackers** Outside linebacker Donnie Edwards will never be Derrick Thomas. But he didn't have many opportunities to hound QBs last year, something Coach Robinson will try to adjust.

Edwards is a stud at stopping the run, as is veteran Marvcus Patton, both of whom seemed to be in on every tackle last season. Mike Maslowski, who made strides after replacing Lew Bush in the second half of last year, is expected to continue to progress in 2001.

**Defensive Backs** In a division featuring several top-notch passers, the Chiefs secondary was often picked apart last season. Vermeil has to hope experience translates into success. Kansas City signed ex-Bronco Ray Crockett, a 13-year veteran who wants to show he can still play. On the other side, Pat Dennis, 23, will challenge Eric Warfield, 25. Safeties Jerome Woods and Greg Wesley are not big-name NFLers, but they showed a lot in 2000.

**Special Teams** There's no place to go but up for the Chiefs, whose cover and return teams struggled last year. Kicker Todd Peterson also can do better; he hit only two of five attempts from 40 yards and out. New punter Dan Stryzinski, formerly of Atlanta, should help with field position; he dropped 27 punts inside the opponents' 20-yard line last season.

The new special teams star, though, is Horne. He's creative with the ball, and his blazing speed can compensate for poor blocking.

*Trent Green*

**Management** Vermeil, one of only four coaches in NFL history to lead two different teams to the Super Bowl, is back among friends. He intended to walk away for good last time, but he and his family missed the lifestyle. Plus, K.C. offered the chance to reunite with GM Peterson, a receivers coach at UCLA under Vermeil in the '70s and later an Eagles assistant for him.

Vermeil inherits more in Kansas City than he started with in Philadelphia or St. Louis, but on paper the skills don't fit the schemes. Still, Vermeil's teams have been underestimated before, and it's only a matter of time before *his* players put *his* plans into action.

*—Jim Trotter*

## EXTRA POINTS

### PLAYER TO WATCH

If quarterback Trent Green's surgically-repaired knee and pass protection hold up, the Chiefs have a shot at eclipsing .500.

### DON'T MISS THIS MATCHUP

K.C. at St. Louis, Aug. 31. The schedule says it's a meaningless preseason game. Bad blood between the teams' front offices says otherwise.

### KEY STAT

The Chiefs forced just 29 turnovers last year, the fourth fewest in franchise history.

### GLUE GUY

Ray Crockett's 13 years of NFL experience is nearly double that of K.C.'s other cornerbacks combined. To hang tough in the West, Crockett has to steady the secondary.

***Ray Crockett***

## THE DRAFT BOARD

| RD | Name, Position, School | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | Eric Downing | DT, Syracuse<br>Good upside, but doesn't figure to help immediately. |
| 3 | Marvin Minnis | WR, Florida State<br>Undersized but quick. Could help out in the slot. |
| 4 | Monty Beisel | DE, Kansas State<br>Great motor, limited size. Pass-rush specialist? |
| 4 | George Layne | FB, TCU<br>Cleared space for LaDainian Tomlinson last season. |
| 5 | Billy Baber | TE, Virginia<br>Nice hands, suspect blocking skills. |
| 5 | Derrick Blaylock | RB, Stephen F. Austin<br>Quick and shifty. Durability is an issue. |
| 6 | Alex Sulfsted | OT, Miami (Ohio)<br>Has athleticism, but lacks necessary strength. |
| 7 | Shaunard Harts | DB, Boise State<br>Big hitter. Big heart. Limited opportunities for now. |
| 7 | Terdell Sands | DT, Chattanooga<br>Played one year in college, so he's a project. |

**C–** The Chiefs had to wait until the third round to make their first selection, and by most accounts Downing is a reach. The hope is that he can join the rotation as the third tackle. We'll see. Marvin Minnis, better known as Snoop, has the physical attributes to fit the Chiefs offense, but his durability and ability to get separation from pro cornerbacks are in question. Beisel has a chance to contribute in passing situations this season as a rush end.

NFL (CROCKETT); JAMIE SQUIRE/ALLSPORT

# PREVIEW SPORTS FANTASY GUIDE

If football is a team sport, fantasy football is all about the individual. Don't believe it? Find a league owner who had Rams running back Marshall Faulk last season and ask where his or her team finished. If it didn't win the league, we'd bet Super Bowl tickets it wound up in the top three.

Who is this season's must-have player? Is it Faulk again? How about the Indianapolis Colts' Mr. Everything, Edgerrin James, or talented Vikings wide receiver Randy Moss, who has 43 receiving TDs in three pro seasons?

In the following 17 pages you'll find more than 350 player capsules to help you decide who will punch it in for six 15 times, and who will light up your league for 4,000 passing yards. We bring you position-by-position breakdowns for the entire NFL, including PREVIEW SPORTS' most overrated and underrated players at each position, our picks for breakthrough player and rookie, plus the most injury-prone and best comeback players. We also provide defensive stats to help you determine what units won't let you down.

## EACH PLAYER CAPSULE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING KEY INFORMATION

**AGE**—Player's age as of Sept. 1, 2001.
**DRAFT ORDER**—Projected round in which a player should be selected in an average fantasy draft. If a player is designated as FA, he is projected to be an undrafted free agent who can be acquired after the draft and during the season.
**DOLLAR VALUE**—Projected cost of a player based on standard fantasy football format—16-man rosters with a $180 spending cap. Players with $0 values are not projected to be selected in a typical draft or auction.
**THREE-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE**—Detailed three-year NFL statistics.

**Quarterback's Key:** ATT, passing attempts; CMP, passing completions; PCT, completion percentage; YDS, yards passing; TD, passing touchdowns; INT, interceptions; RTG, passer rating (* NCAA passer rating)

**Running back's Key:** CAR, carries; YDS, yards rushing; YPC, yards per carry; REC, receptions; YDS, yards receiving; TD, total touchdowns

**Wide receivers/Tight end's Key:** REC, receptions; YDS, yards receiving; AVG, average yards per reception, TD, receiving touchdowns

**Kicker's Key:** FG, field goals made and attempted; 1-39, field goals made and attempted under 40 yards; 40-49, field goals made and attempted from 40 to 49 yards; 50+, field goals made and attempted from 50 yards and out; PAT, extra points made and attempted; PTS, total points scored

**Defense's Key:** TYPG, total yards allowed per game; RYPG, rushing yards allowed per game; PYPG, passing yards allowed per game; PAPG, points allowed per game; FR, fumble recoveries; INT, interceptions; SK, sacks; PTS, points scored by defense

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### BASIC SCORING SYSTEM

Players receive points for their performances. The fantasy team whose players accumulate the most points wins.

Touchdown, rushing or receiving — **6 points**
Touchdown, passing — **4 points**
Each 10 yards rushing or receiving — **1 point** (that is, a running back or receiver gets 1 point for each 10 yards rushing and/or receiving)
Each 25 yards passing — **1 point**
Sack by defense — **1 point**
Turnover forced — **1 point**
Field goal — **3 points** (you can also choose to make longer field goals, say 45 yards and up, worth 4 or 5 points)
Safety by defense — **4 points**
Shutout by defense — **10 points**

### ADVANCED SCORING SYSTEM

Going head to head in each of the following categories, two points are awarded to the team that wins each category. (No points are awarded in case of a tie in a category.)

**Quarterback** — completions, completion percentage, total yards (passing yards plus rushing yards minus 25 yards per interception), touchdowns (rushing and passing)
**Running Back** — rushes, yards rushing, catches, yards receiving
**Receiver** — catches, yards receiving, yards per catch
**Kicker** — points scored
**Defense** — yards allowed, turnovers plus sacks
**Total points scored in the NFL game by all players** (all field goals, touchdowns, extra points, defensive scores combined)

# QUARTERBACKS

## THE SKINNY

**MOST OVERRATED**

**BRETT FAVRE**
Great leader, but watch his interceptions.

**JEFF GEORGE**
Poor numbers in two of last three years.

**MOST UNDERRATED**

**JEFF GARCIA**
San Francisco's QB legacy continues.

**ELVIS GRBAC**
Adds needed punch to Super Bowl champs.

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYERS**

**MATT HASSELBECK**
Mike Holmgren has a nose for talent.

**ROB JOHNSON**
Flutie's gone, but pressure to excel isn't.

**BREAKTHROUGH ROOKIES**

**DREW BREES**
Was the Chargers' favorite QB in the draft.

**CHRIS WEINKE**
There's no one established in front of him.

**MOST INJURY-PRONE**

**CHARLIE BATCH**
Scrambling style can get him in trouble.

**CHRIS CHANDLER**
He's often target practice for D-linemen.

**COMEBACK PLAYERS**

**TIM COUCH**
Thumb is O.K., weapons are developing.

**BRAD JOHNSON**
Starting over on team thrilled to have him.

Quality starters at quarterback and running back will carry a fantasy team further than talent at any other position. With that in mind, choose wisely. You can go veteran with someone such as Oakland's Rich Gannon or Green Bay's Brett Favre—if you think they'll hold up. Or take a chance on an up-and-comer such as Donovan McNabb of Philadelphia or Matt Hasselbeck of Seattle. We think Indianapolis' Peyton Manning is the best of the lot, with the Rams' Kurt Warner a close second. Look for a resurgence from Brad Johnson in Tampa Bay. San Francisco's Jeff Garcia should be outstanding, even without Jerry Rice and Charlie Garner. Interesting training camp battles are brewing in Carolina (Jeff Lewis versus Chris Weinke), Chicago (pick one: Shane Matthews, Cade McNown or Jim Miller), Cincinnati (Jon Kitna-Akili Smith) and New Orleans (Jeff Blake-Aaron Brooks). Washington's Jeff George always seems to disappoint, so don't bother taking him.

## PLAYER STATS

### PEYTON MANNING — $38
Colts | Age: 25 | Round: 1

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 571 | 357 | 62.5 | 4,413 | 33 | 15 | 94.7 |
| '99 IND | 533 | 331 | 62.1 | 4,135 | 26 | 15 | 90.7 |
| '98 IND (R) | 575 | 326 | 56.7 | 3,739 | 26 | 28 | 71.2 |

### KURT WARNER — $37
Rams | Age: 30 | Round: 1

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 347 | 235 | 67.7 | 3,429 | 21 | 18 | 98.3 |
| '99 STL | 499 | 325 | 65.1 | 4,353 | 41 | 13 | 109.2 |
| '98 STL (R) | 11 | 4 | 36.4 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 47.2 |

### DAUNTE CULPEPPER — $36
Vikings | Age: 24 | Round: 1

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 474 | 297 | 62.7 | 3,937 | 33 | 16 | 98.0 |
| '99 MIN (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

### JEFF GARCIA — $35
49ers | Age: 31 | Round: 1

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 561 | 355 | 63.3 | 4,278 | 31 | 10 | 97.6 |
| '99 SF | 375 | 225 | 60.0 | 2,544 | 11 | 11 | 77.9 |

### RICH GANNON — $33
Raiders | Age: 35 | Round: 2

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 473 | 284 | 60.0 | 3,430 | 28 | 11 | 92.4 |
| '99 OAK | 515 | 304 | 59.0 | 3,840 | 24 | 14 | 86.5 |
| '98 KC | 354 | 206 | 58.2 | 2,305 | 10 | 6 | 80.1 |

### BRETT FAVRE — $29
Packers | Age: 31 | Round: 3

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 580 | 338 | 58.3 | 3,812 | 20 | 16 | 78.0 |
| '99 GB | 595 | 341 | 57.3 | 4,091 | 22 | 23 | 74.7 |
| '98 GB | 551 | 347 | 63.0 | 4,212 | 31 | 23 | 87.8 |

### MARK BRUNELL — $28
Jaguars | Age: 30 | Round: 3

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 512 | 311 | 60.7 | 3,640 | 20 | 14 | 84.0 |
| '99 JAX | 441 | 259 | 58.7 | 3,060 | 14 | 9 | 82.0 |
| '98 JAX | 354 | 208 | 58.8 | 2,601 | 20 | 9 | 89.9 |

### ELVIS GRBAC — $27
Ravens | Age: 31 | Round: 3

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 547 | 326 | 59.6 | 4,169 | 28 | 14 | 89.9 |
| '99 KC | 499 | 294 | 58.9 | 3,389 | 22 | 15 | 81.7 |
| '98 KC | 188 | 98 | 52.1 | 1,142 | 5 | 12 | 53.1 |

### BRAD JOHNSON — $27
Buccaneers | Age: 32 | Round: 3

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 364 | 227 | 62.4 | 2,505 | 11 | 15 | 75.6 |
| '99 WAS | 519 | 316 | 60.9 | 4,005 | 24 | 13 | 90.0 |
| '98 MIN | 101 | 65 | 64.4 | 747 | 7 | 5 | 89.0 |

### BRIAN GRIESE — $24
Broncos | Age: 26 | Round: 4

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 336 | 216 | 64.3 | 2,688 | 19 | 4 | 102.9 |
| '99 DEN | 452 | 261 | 57.7 | 3,032 | 14 | 14 | 75.6 |
| '98 DEN (R) | 3 | 1 | 33.3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2.8 |

### DONOVAN McNABB — $24
Eagles | Age: 24 | Round: 4

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 569 | 330 | 58.0 | 3,365 | 21 | 13 | 77.8 |
| '99 PHI (R) | 216 | 106 | 49.1 | 948 | 8 | 7 | 60.1 |

### TRENT GREEN — $23
Chiefs | Age: 31 | Round: 5

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 240 | 145 | 60.4 | 2,063 | 16 | 5 | 101.8 |
| '99 STL | DNP-INJURED | | | | | | |
| '98 WAS | 509 | 278 | 54.6 | 3,441 | 23 | 11 | 81.8 |

### ROB JOHNSON — $21
Bills | Age: 28 | Round: 5

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 306 | 175 | 57.2 | 2,125 | 12 | 7 | 82.2 |
| '99 BUF | 34 | 25 | 73.5 | 298 | 2 | 0 | 119.5 |
| '98 BUF | 107 | 67 | 62.6 | 910 | 8 | 3 | 102.9 |

### DREW BLEDSOE — $20
Patriots | Age: 29 | Round: 6

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 531 | 312 | 58.8 | 3,291 | 17 | 13 | 77.3 |
| '99 NE | 539 | 305 | 56.6 | 3,985 | 19 | 21 | 75.6 |
| '98 NE | 481 | 263 | 54.7 | 3,633 | 20 | 14 | 80.9 |

### KERRY COLLINS — $17
Giants | Age: 28 | Round: 7

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 529 | 311 | 58.8 | 3,610 | 22 | 13 | 83.1 |
| '99 NYG | 332 | 191 | 57.5 | 2,316 | 8 | 11 | 73.3 |
| '98 CAR-NO | 353 | 170 | 48.2 | 2,213 | 12 | 15 | 62.0 |

### DOUG FLUTIE — $17
Chargers | Age: 38 | Round: 7

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 231 | 132 | 57.1 | 1,700 | 8 | 3 | 86.5 |
| '99 BUF | 478 | 264 | 55.2 | 3,171 | 19 | 16 | 75.1 |
| '98 BUF | 354 | 202 | 57.1 | 2,711 | 20 | 11 | 87.4 |

### MATT HASSELBECK — $15
Seahawks | Age: 25 | Round: 8

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 19 | 10 | 52.6 | 104 | 1 | 0 | 86.3 |
| '99 GB (R) | 10 | 3 | 30.0 | 41 | 1 | 0 | 77.5 |

### VINNY TESTAVERDE — $14
Jets | Age: 37 | Round: 8

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 590 | 328 | 55.6 | 3,732 | 21 | 25 | 69.0 |
| '99 NYJ | 15 | 10 | 66.7 | 96 | 1 | 1 | 78.7 |
| '98 NYJ | 421 | 259 | 61.5 | 3,256 | 29 | 7 | 101.6 |

### STEVE McNAIR — $13
Titans | Age: 28 | Round: 9

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 396 | 248 | 62.6 | 2,847 | 15 | 13 | 83.2 |
| '99 TEN | 331 | 187 | 56.5 | 2,179 | 12 | 8 | 78.6 |
| '98 TEN | 492 | 289 | 58.7 | 3,228 | 15 | 10 | 80.1 |

### JEFF BLAKE — $12
Saints | Age: 30 | Round: 9

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 302 | 184 | 60.9 | 2,025 | 13 | 9 | 82.7 |
| '99 CIN | 389 | 215 | 55.3 | 2,670 | 16 | 12 | 77.6 |
| '98 CIN | 93 | 51 | 54.8 | 739 | 3 | 3 | 78.2 |

### JEFF GEORGE — $12
Redskins | Age: 33 | Round: 9

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 194 | 113 | 58.2 | 1,389 | 7 | 6 | 79.6 |
| '99 MIN | 329 | 191 | 58.1 | 2,816 | 23 | 12 | 94.2 |
| '98 OAK | 169 | 93 | 55.0 | 1,186 | 4 | 5 | 72.7 |

### CHRIS CHANDLER — $11
Falcons | Age: 35 | Round: 10

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 331 | 192 | 58.0 | 2,236 | 10 | 12 | 73.5 |
| '99 ATL | 307 | 174 | 56.7 | 2,339 | 16 | 11 | 83.5 |
| '98 ATL | 327 | 190 | 58.1 | 3,154 | 25 | 12 | 100.9 |

### JAKE PLUMMER — $11
Cardinals | Age: 26 | Round: 10

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 475 | 270 | 56.8 | 2,946 | 13 | 21 | 66.0 |
| '99 ARI | 381 | 201 | 52.8 | 2,111 | 9 | 24 | 50.8 |
| '98 ARI | 547 | 324 | 59.2 | 3,737 | 17 | 20 | 75.0 |

## TIM COUCH — $10

Browns | Age: 24 | Round: 10

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 215 | 137 | 63.7 | 1,483 | 7 | 9 | 77.3 |
| '99 CLE (R) | 399 | 223 | 55.9 | 2,447 | 15 | 13 | 73.2 |

## TONY BANKS — $9

Cowboys | Age: 28 | Round: 11

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 274 | 150 | 54.7 | 1,578 | 8 | 8 | 69.3 |
| '99 BAL | 320 | 169 | 52.8 | 2,136 | 17 | 8 | 81.2 |
| '98 STL | 408 | 241 | 59.1 | 2,535 | 7 | 14 | 68.6 |

## CHARLIE BATCH — $8

Lions | Age: 26 | Round: 11

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 412 | 221 | 53.6 | 2,489 | 13 | 15 | 67.3 |
| '99 DET | 270 | 151 | 55.9 | 1,957 | 13 | 7 | 84.1 |
| '98 DET (R) | 303 | 173 | 57.1 | 2,178 | 11 | 6 | 83.5 |

## JON KITNA — $8

Bengals | Age: 28 | Round: 11

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 418 | 259 | 62.0 | 2,658 | 18 | 19 | 75.6 |
| '99 SEA | 495 | 270 | 54.5 | 3,346 | 23 | 16 | 77.7 |
| '98 SEA | 172 | 98 | 57.0 | 1,177 | 7 | 8 | 72.3 |

## STEVE BEUERLEIN — $7

Free agent | Age: 36 | Round: 12

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 533 | 324 | 60.8 | 3,730 | 19 | 18 | 79.7 |
| '99 CAR | 571 | 343 | 60.1 | 4,436 | 36 | 15 | 94.6 |
| '98 CAR | 343 | 216 | 63.0 | 2,613 | 17 | 12 | 88.2 |

## JAY FIEDLER — $7

Dolphins | Age: 29 | Round: 12

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 357 | 204 | 57.1 | 2,402 | 14 | 14 | 74.5 |
| '99 JAX | 94 | 61 | 64.9 | 656 | 2 | 2 | 83.5 |
| '98 MIN | 7 | 3 | 42.9 | 41 | 0 | 1 | 22.6 |

## TRENT DILFER — $6

Free agent | Age: 29 | Round: 12

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 226 | 134 | 59.3 | 1,502 | 12 | 11 | 76.6 |
| '99 TB | 244 | 146 | 59.8 | 1,619 | 11 | 11 | 75.8 |
| '98 TB | 429 | 225 | 52.4 | 2,729 | 21 | 15 | 74.0 |

## JEFF LEWIS — $5

Panthers | Age: 28 | Round: 13

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 32 | 16 | 50.0 | 120 | 0 | 1 | 46.4 |
| '99 CAR | 3 | 2 | 66.7 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 72.9 |
| '98 DEN | DNP-INJURED | | | | | | |

## SHANE MATTHEWS — $5

Bears | Age: 31 | Round: 13

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 178 | 102 | 57.3 | 964 | 3 | 6 | 64.0 |
| '99 CHI | 275 | 167 | 60.7 | 1,645 | 10 | 6 | 80.6 |
| '98 CAR | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## CADE McNOWN — $4

Bears | Age: 24 | Round: 13

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 280 | 154 | 55.0 | 1,646 | 8 | 9 | 68.5 |
| '99 CHI (R) | 235 | 127 | 54.0 | 1,465 | 8 | 10 | 66.7 |

## KORDELL STEWART — $4

Steelers | Age: 28 | Round: 13

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 289 | 151 | 52.2 | 1,860 | 11 | 8 | 73.6 |
| '99 PIT | 275 | 160 | 58.2 | 1,464 | 6 | 10 | 64.9 |
| '98 PIT | 458 | 252 | 55.0 | 2,560 | 11 | 18 | 62.9 |

## CHRIS WEINKE — $4

Panthers | Age: 29 | Round: 13

Rookie from Florida State

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 FSU | 431 | 266 | 61.7 | 4,167 | 33 | 11 | 151.2 |

## AARON BROOKS — $2

Saints | Age: 25 | Round: 15

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 194 | 113 | 58.2 | 1,514 | 9 | 6 | 85.7 |
| '99 GB (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## DREW BREES — $1

Chargers | Age: 22 | Round 16

Rookie from Purdue

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PUR | 512 | 309 | 60.4 | 3,668 | 26 | 12 | 132.6 |

## GUS FREROTTE — $1

Broncos | Age: 30 | Round: 16

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 232 | 138 | 59.5 | 1,776 | 9 | 8 | 82.1 |
| '99 DET | 288 | 175 | 60.8 | 2,117 | 9 | 7 | 83.6 |
| '98 WAS | 54 | 25 | 46.3 | 283 | 1 | 3 | 45.5 |

## JIM HARBAUGH — $1

Lions | Age: 37 | Round: 16

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 202 | 123 | 60.9 | 1,416 | 8 | 10 | 74.6 |
| '99 SD | 434 | 249 | 57.4 | 2,761 | 10 | 14 | 70.6 |
| '98 BAL | 293 | 164 | 56.0 | 1,839 | 12 | 11 | 72.9 |

## SHAUN KING — $1

Buccaneers | Age: 24 | Round: 16

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 428 | 233 | 54.4 | 2,769 | 18 | 13 | 75.8 |
| '99 TB (R) | 146 | 89 | 61.0 | 875 | 7 | 4 | 82.4 |

## RYAN LEAF — $1

Buccaneers | Age: 25 | Round: 16

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 322 | 161 | 50.0 | 1,883 | 11 | 18 | 56.2 |
| '99 SD | DNP-INJURED | | | | | | |
| '98 SD (R) | 245 | 111 | 45.3 | 1,289 | 2 | 15 | 39.0 |

## RAY LUCAS — $1

Dolphins | Age: 29 | Round: 16

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 41 | 21 | 51.2 | 206 | 0 | 4 | 26.1 |
| '99 NYJ | 272 | 161 | 59.2 | 1,678 | 14 | 6 | 85.1 |
| '98 NYJ | 3 | 1 | 33.3 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 67.4 |

## CHAD PENNINGTON — $1

Jets | Age: 25 | Round: 16

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ (R) | 5 | 2 | 40.0 | 67 | 1 | 0 | 127.1 |

## AKILI SMITH — $1

Bengals | Age: 26 | Round: 16

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 267 | 118 | 44.2 | 1,253 | 3 | 6 | 52.8 |
| '99 CIN (R) | 153 | 80 | 52.3 | 805 | 2 | 6 | 55.6 |

## MICHAEL BISHOP — $0

Patriots | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 9 | 3 | 33.3 | 80 | 1 | 1 | 64.4 |
| '99 NE (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## JOSH BOOTY — $0

Seahawks | Age: 26 | Round: FA

Rookie from Louisiana State

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 LSU | 290 | 145 | 50.0 | 2,121 | 17 | 15 | 120.4 |

## TODD BOUMAN — $0

Vikings | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 MIN | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '98 MIN | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## TOM BRADY — $0

Patriots | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE (R) | 3 | 1 | 33.3 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 42.4 |

## BUBBY BRISTER — $0

Chiefs | Age: 39 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 20 | 10 | 50.0 | 82 | 0 | 1 | 40.0 |
| '99 DEN | 20 | 12 | 60.0 | 87 | 0 | 3 | 30.6 |
| '98 DEN | 131 | 78 | 59.5 | 986 | 10 | 3 | 99.0 |

## DAVE BROWN — $0

Cardinals | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 69 | 40 | 58.0 | 467 | 2 | 3 | 70.1 |
| '99 ARI | 169 | 84 | 49.7 | 944 | 2 | 6 | 55.9 |
| '98 ARI | 5 | 2 | 40.0 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 61.3 |

## TRAVIS BROWN — $0

Seahawks | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA (R) | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |

## HENRY BURRIS — $0

Packers | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CFL | 576 | 308 | 53.5 | 4,647 | 30 | 25 | 79.8 |

## GIOVANNI CARMAZZI — $0

49ers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## QUINCY CARTER — $0

Cowboys | Age: 23 | Round: FA

Rookie from Georgia

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UGA | 183 | 91 | 49.7 | 1,250 | 6 | 10 | 107.0 |

## STONEY CASE — $0

Free agent | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 91 | 56 | 61.5 | 503 | 1 | 4 | 61.7 |
| '99 BAL | 170 | 77 | 43.5 | 988 | 3 | 8 | 50.3 |
| '98 ARI | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## TODD COLLINS — $0

Chiefs | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 KC | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '98 KC | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## SCOTT COVINGTON — $0

Bengals | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 CIN (R) | 5 | 4 | 80.0 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 85.8 |

## DAMEYUNE CRAIG — $0

Panthers | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 CAR | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '98 CAR (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## RANDALL CUNNINGHAM — $0

Free agent | Age: 38 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 125 | 74 | 59.2 | 849 | 6 | 4 | 82.4 |
| '99 MIN | 200 | 124 | 62.0 | 1,475 | 8 | 9 | 79.1 |
| '98 MIN | 425 | 259 | 60.9 | 3,704 | 34 | 10 | 106.0 |

## JAKE DELHOMME — $0

Saints | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 NO | 76 | 42 | 55.3 | 521 | 3 | 5 | 62.4 |
| '98 NO (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## KOY DETMER — $0

Eagles | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.0 |
| '99 PHI | 29 | 10 | 34.5 | 181 | 3 | 2 | 62.6 |
| '98 PHI (R) | 181 | 97 | 53.6 | 1,011 | 5 | 5 | 67.7 |

## TY DETMER — $0

Browns | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 CLE | 91 | 47 | 51.6 | 548 | 4 | 2 | 75.7 |
| '98 SF | 38 | 24 | 63.2 | 312 | 4 | 3 | 91.1 |

## JOHN FRIESZ — $0

Free agent | Age: 34 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 21 | 11 | 52.4 | 66 | 0 | 1 | 39.0 |
| '99 NE | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '98 SEA | 49 | 29 | 59.2 | 409 | 2 | 2 | 82.8 |

## JASON GARRETT — $0

Giants | Age: 35 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 DAL | 64 | 32 | 50.0 | 314 | 3 | 1 | 73.3 |
| '98 DAL | 158 | 91 | 57.6 | 1,206 | 5 | 3 | 84.5 |

## JOE GERMAINE — $0

Rams | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 STL (R) | 16 | 9 | 56.3 | 136 | 1 | 2 | 65.6 |

## KENT GRAHAM — $0

Steelers | Age: 32 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 148 | 66 | 44.6 | 878 | 1 | 1 | 63.4 |
| '99 NYG | 271 | 160 | 59.0 | 1,697 | 9 | 9 | 74.6 |
| '98 NYG | 205 | 105 | 51.2 | 1,219 | 7 | 5 | 70.8 |

## TONY GRAZIANI — $0

Free agent | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL-CLE | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 ATL | 118 | 62 | 52.5 | 759 | 2 | 4 | 64.2 |
| '98 ATL | 33 | 16 | 48.5 | 199 | 0 | 2 | 42.4 |

## CHRIS GREISEN — $0

Cardinals | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 10 | 6 | 60.0 | 65 | 1 | 0 | 112.5 |
| '99 ARI (R) | 6 | 1 | 16.7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |

## JOSH HEUPEL — $0

Dolphins | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Oklahoma

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OU | 472 | 305 | 64.6 | 3,606 | 20 | 15 | 136.4 |

## BILLY JOE HOBERT — $0

Colts | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 NO | 159 | 85 | 53.5 | 970 | 6 | 6 | 68.9 |
| '98 NO | 23 | 11 | 47.8 | 170 | 1 | 0 | 87.2 |

## BOBBY HOYING — $0

Raiders | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |
| '99 OAK | 5 | 2 | 40.0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 47.9 |
| '98 PHI | 224 | 114 | 50.9 | 961 | 0 | 9 | 45.6 |

## BROCK HUARD — $0

Seahawks | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 87 | 49 | 56.3 | 540 | 3 | 2 | 76.8 |
| '99 SEA (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## DAMON HUARD — $0

Patriots | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 63 | 39 | 61.9 | 318 | 1 | 3 | 60.2 |
| '99 MIA | 216 | 125 | 57.9 | 1,288 | 8 | 4 | 79.8 |
| '98 MIA | 9 | 6 | 66.7 | 85 | 0 | 1 | 57.4 |

## TODD HUSAK — $0

Redskins | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS (R) | 2 | 2 | 100.0 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 79.2 |

## JARIOUS JACKSON — $0

Broncos | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN (R) | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |

## DOUG JOHNSON — $0

Falcons | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL (R) | 67 | 36 | 53.7 | 406 | 2 | 3 | 63.4 |

## DANNY KANELL — $0

Free agent | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 116 | 57 | 49.1 | 524 | 2 | 5 | 49.6 |
| '99 ATL | 84 | 42 | 50.0 | 593 | 4 | 4 | 69.2 |
| '98 NYG | 299 | 160 | 53.5 | 1,603 | 11 | 10 | 67.3 |

## JAMIE MARTIN — $0

Jaguars | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 33 | 22 | 66.7 | 307 | 2 | 1 | 104.0 |
| '99 CLE | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '98 JAX | 45 | 27 | 60.0 | 355 | 2 | 0 | 99.8 |

## TEE MARTIN — $0

Steelers | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## MIKE McMAHON — $0

Lions | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Rutgers

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 RUT | 340 | 169 | 49.7 | 2,157 | 18 | 17 | 110.5 |

## JIM MILLER — $0

Bears | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 82 | 47 | 57.3 | 382 | 1 | 1 | 68.2 |
| '99 CHI | 174 | 110 | 63.2 | 1,242 | 7 | 6 | 83.5 |
| '98 CHI | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## RICK MIRER — $0

Free agent | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 20 | 10 | 50.0 | 126 | 1 | 0 | 86.7 |
| '99 NYJ | 176 | 95 | 54.0 | 1,062 | 5 | 9 | 60.4 |
| '98 GB | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## SCOTT MITCHELL — $0

Bengals | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 187 | 89 | 47.6 | 966 | 3 | 8 | 50.8 |
| '99 BAL | 56 | 24 | 42.9 | 236 | 1 | 4 | 31.5 |
| '98 DET | 75 | 38 | 50.7 | 452 | 1 | 3 | 57.2 |

## MOSES MORENO — $0

Chargers | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 53 | 27 | 50.9 | 241 | 0 | 2 | 47.8 |
| '99 SD | 7 | 5 | 71.4 | 78 | 0 | 0 | 108.0 |
| '98 CHI (R) | 43 | 19 | 44.2 | 166 | 1 | 0 | 62.7 |

## NEIL O'DONNELL — $0

Titans | Age: 35 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 64 | 36 | 56.3 | 530 | 2 | 3 | 74.3 |
| '99 TEN | 195 | 116 | 59.5 | 1,382 | 10 | 5 | 87.6 |
| '98 CIN | 343 | 212 | 61.8 | 2,216 | 15 | 4 | 90.2 |

## JESSE PALMER — $0

Giants | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Florida

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UF | 233 | 122 | 52.4 | 1,713 | 11 | 5 | 125.5 |

## DOUG PEDERSON — $0

Packers | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 210 | 117 | 55.7 | 1,047 | 2 | 8 | 56.6 |
| '99 PHI | 227 | 119 | 52.4 | 1,276 | 7 | 9 | 62.9 |
| '98 GB | 24 | 14 | 58.3 | 128 | 2 | 0 | 100.7 |

## RODNEY PEETE — $0

Raiders | Age: 35 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 WAS | 17 | 8 | 47.1 | 107 | 2 | 1 | 82.2 |
| '98 PHI | 129 | 71 | 55.0 | 758 | 2 | 4 | 64.7 |

## JONATHAN QUINN — $0

Jaguars | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 JAX | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '98 JAX (R) | 64 | 34 | 53.1 | 387 | 2 | 3 | 62.4 |

## TIM RATTAY — $0

49ers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF (R) | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | -4 | 0 | 0 | 79.2 |

## CHRIS REDMAN — $0

Ravens | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL (R) | 3 | 2 | 66.7 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 84.0 |

## SAGE ROSENFELS — $0

Redskins | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Iowa State

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ISU | 333 | 171 | 51.7 | 2,298 | 8 | 12 | 110.1 |

## KEVIN THOMPSON — $0

Browns | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE (R) | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 100.0 |

## BILLY JOE TOLLIVER — $0

Bears | Age: 35 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 NO | 268 | 139 | 51.9 | 1,916 | 7 | 16 | 58.9 |
| '98 NO | 199 | 110 | 55.3 | 1,427 | 8 | 4 | 83.1 |

## MIKE TOMCZAK — $0

Free agent | Age: 38 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 PIT | 258 | 139 | 53.9 | 1,625 | 12 | 8 | 75.8 |
| '98 PIT | 30 | 21 | 70.0 | 204 | 2 | 2 | 111.0 |

### MARQUES TUIASOSOPO $0
Raiders | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Washington

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UW | 323 | 170 | 52.6 | 2,146 | 14 | 11 | 115.9 |

### MICHAEL VICK $0
Falcons | Age: 21 | Round: FA
Rookie from Virginia Tech

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 VT | 161 | 87 | 54.0 | 1,234 | 8 | 6 | 127.4 |

### ANTHONY WRIGHT $0
Cowboys | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 53 | 22 | 41.5 | 237 | 0 | 3 | 31.7 |
| '99 PIT (R) | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

### DANNY WUERFFEL $0
Free agent | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| '99 NO | 48 | 22 | 45.8 | 191 | 0 | 3 | 30.8 |
| '98 NO | 119 | 62 | 52.1 | 695 | 5 | 5 | 66.3 |

### SPERGON WYNN $0
Browns | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE (R) | 54 | 22 | 40.7 | 167 | 0 | 1 | 41.2 |

### ERIC ZEIER $0
Falcons | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RTG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 3 | 3 | 100.0 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 93.1 |
| '99 TB | 55 | 32 | 58.2 | 270 | 0 | 1 | 63.4 |
| '98 BAL | 181 | 107 | 59.1 | 1,312 | 4 | 3 | 82.0 |

# RUNNING BACKS

## THE SKINNY

**MOST OVERRATED**

**MIKE ALSTOTT**
His role will be to block more this season.

**JEROME BETTIS**
The Bus can roll but doesn't catch passes.

**MOST UNDERRATED**

**AHMAN GREEN**
Green is an outstanding double threat.

**JAMES STEWART**
He has 24 TDs over the past two seasons.

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYERS**

**SHAWN BRYSON**
Buffalo needs him to be a workhorse.

**J.R. REDMOND**
Runs are there for the taking at Foxboro.

**BREAKTHROUGH ROOKIES**

**MICHAEL BENNETT**
Burner trying to fill Robert Smith's shoes.

**LADAINIAN TOMLINSON**
Best Charger rusher since Natrone Means.

**MOST INJURY-PRONE**

**TIM BIAKABUTUKA**
Limited to 412 carries last three seasons.

**RICKY WILLIAMS**
Saints got Deuce McAllister as insurance.

**COMEBACK PLAYERS**

**TERRELL DAVIS**
If he can stay healthy, he's dangerous.

**DUCE STALEY**
Worked hard rehabbing from broken foot.

St. Louis' Marshall Faulk is fantasy football's MVP. He's a safe bet to be the top pick in your fantasy draft. Despite missing two games due to arthroscopic knee surgery last season, Faulk still ran up 2,189 total yards. There's a $3-$5 dropoff in value once Faulk goes, but there are still plenty of outstanding players available. Indianapolis' Edgerrin James (1,709 yards rushing last year) is his team's Mr. Everything. Tennessee's Eddie George is a durable workhorse. Both George and James are first-round picks. Baltimore's Jamal Lewis could run for 1,500 yards now that Priest Holmes left for Kansas City. Charlie Garner remains valuable after his jump from the 49ers to the Raiders. We would like New Orleans' Ricky Williams a lot more had the Saints not drafted Deuce McAllister. Still, New Orleans won't deal Williams this year because of the huge salary-cap hit it would take. Jacksonville's Fred Taylor is outstanding, but he has struggled with injuries in the past. Ahman Green will keep the Packers' job after a great 2000. Corey Dillon could improve his stats following fullback Lorenzo Neal and tackle Richmond Webb.

## PLAYER STATS

### MARSHALL FAULK $40
Rams | Age: 28 | Round: 1

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 253 | 1,359 | 5.4 | 81 | 830 | 26 |
| '99 STL | 253 | 1,381 | 5.5 | 87 | 1,048 | 12 |
| '98 IND | 324 | 1,319 | 4.1 | 86 | 908 | 10 |

### EDGERRIN JAMES $37
Colts | Age: 23 | Round: 1

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 387 | 1,709 | 4.4 | 63 | 594 | 18 |
| '99 IND (R) | 369 | 1,553 | 4.2 | 62 | 586 | 17 |

### EDDIE GEORGE $36
Titans | Age: 27 | Round: 1

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 403 | 1,509 | 3.7 | 50 | 453 | 16 |
| '99 TEN | 320 | 1,304 | 4.1 | 47 | 458 | 13 |
| '98 TEN | 348 | 1,294 | 3.7 | 37 | 310 | 6 |

### JAMAL LEWIS $34
Ravens | Age: 22 | Round: 2

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL (R) | 309 | 1,364 | 4.4 | 27 | 296 | 6 |

### CURTIS MARTIN $33
Jets | Age: 28 | Round: 2

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 316 | 1,204 | 3.8 | 70 | 508 | 11 |
| '99 NYJ | 367 | 1,464 | 4.0 | 45 | 259 | 5 |
| '98 NYJ | 369 | 1,287 | 3.5 | 43 | 365 | 9 |

### FRED TAYLOR $33
Jaguars | Age: 25 | Round: 2

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 292 | 1,399 | 4.8 | 36 | 240 | 14 |
| '99 JAX | 159 | 732 | 4.6 | 10 | 83 | 6 |
| '98 JAX (R) | 264 | 1,223 | 4.6 | 44 | 421 | 17 |

### CHARLIE GARNER $31
Raiders | Age: 29 | Round: 2

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 258 | 1,142 | 4.4 | 68 | 647 | 10 |
| '99 SF | 241 | 1,229 | 5.1 | 56 | 535 | 6 |
| '98 PHI | 96 | 381 | 4.0 | 19 | 110 | 4 |

### AHMAN GREEN $29
Packers | Age: 24 | Round: 3

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 263 | 1,175 | 4.5 | 73 | 559 | 13 |
| '99 SEA | 26 | 120 | 4.6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '98 SEA (R) | 35 | 209 | 6.0 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

### STEPHEN DAVIS $28
Redskins | Age: 27 | Round: 3

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 332 | 1,318 | 4.0 | 33 | 313 | 11 |
| '99 WAS | 290 | 1,405 | 4.8 | 23 | 111 | 17 |
| '98 WAS | 34 | 109 | 3.2 | 21 | 263 | 2 |

### COREY DILLON $27
Bengals | Age: 25 | Round: 3

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 315 | 1,435 | 4.6 | 18 | 158 | 7 |
| '99 CIN | 263 | 1,200 | 4.6 | 31 | 290 | 6 |
| '98 CIN | 262 | 1,130 | 4.3 | 28 | 178 | 5 |

### RICKY WILLIAMS $27
Saints | Age: 24 | Round: 3

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 248 | 1,000 | 4.0 | 44 | 409 | 9 |
| '99 NO (R) | 253 | 884 | 3.5 | 28 | 172 | 2 |

### WARRICK DUNN $25
Buccaneers | Age: 26 | Round: 4

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 248 | 1,133 | 4.6 | 44 | 422 | 9 |
| '99 TB | 195 | 616 | 3.2 | 64 | 589 | 2 |
| '98 TB | 245 | 1,026 | 4.2 | 44 | 344 | 2 |

### MIKE ANDERSON $23
Broncos | Age: 27 | Round: 5

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN (R) | 297 | 1,500 | 5.1 | 23 | 169 | 15 |

### TIKI BARBER $22
Giants | Age: 26 | Round: 5

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 213 | 1,006 | 4.7 | 70 | 719 | 9 |
| '99 NYG | 62 | 258 | 4.2 | 66 | 609 | 2 |
| '98 NYG | 52 | 166 | 3.2 | 42 | 348 | 3 |

### LADAINIAN TOMLINSON $22
Chargers | Age: 22 | Round: 5
Rookie from Texas Christian

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TCU | 369 | 2158 | 5.8 | 10 | 40 | 24 |

### LAMAR SMITH $21
Dolphins | Age: 30 | Round: 5

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 309 | 1,139 | 3.7 | 31 | 201 | 16 |
| '99 NO | 60 | 205 | 3.4 | 20 | 151 | 1 |
| '98 NO | 138 | 457 | 3.3 | 24 | 249 | 3 |

### MICHAEL BENNETT $20
Vikings | Age: 23 | Round: 6
Rookie from Wisconsin

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UW | 310 | 1,681 | 5.4 | 4 | 23 | 11 |

### JAMES STEWART $19
Lions | Age: 29 | Round: 6

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 339 | 1,184 | 3.5 | 32 | 287 | 11 |
| '99 JAX | 249 | 931 | 3.7 | 21 | 108 | 13 |
| '98 JAX | 53 | 217 | 4.1 | 6 | 42 | 3 |

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## RICKY WATTERS $19

Seahawks | Age: 32 | Round: 6

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 278 | 1,242 | 4.5 | 63 | 613 | 9 |
| '99 SEA | 325 | 1,210 | 3.7 | 40 | 387 | 7 |
| '98 SEA | 319 | 1,239 | 3.9 | 52 | 373 | 9 |

## EMMITT SMITH $18

Cowboys | Age: 32 | Round: 6

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 294 | 1,203 | 4.1 | 11 | 79 | 9 |
| '99 DAL | 329 | 1,397 | 4.2 | 27 | 119 | 13 |
| '98 DAL | 319 | 1,332 | 4.2 | 27 | 175 | 15 |

## JAMAL ANDERSON $16

Falcons | Age: 28 | Round: 7

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 282 | 1,024 | 3.6 | 42 | 382 | 6 |
| '99 ATL | 19 | 59 | 3.1 | 2 | 34 | 0 |
| '98 ATL | 410 | 1,846 | 4.5 | 27 | 319 | 16 |

## JAMES ALLEN $14

Bears | Age: 26 | Round: 8

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 290 | 1,120 | 3.9 | 39 | 291 | 3 |
| '99 CHI | 32 | 119 | 3.7 | 9 | 91 | 0 |
| '98 CHI (R) | 58 | 270 | 4.7 | 8 | 77 | 2 |

## JEROME BETTIS $14

Steelers | Age: 29 | Round: 8

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TDS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 355 | 1,341 | 3.8 | 13 | 97 | 8 |
| '99 PIT | 299 | 1,091 | 3.6 | 21 | 110 | 7 |
| '98 PIT | 316 | 1,185 | 3.8 | 16 | 90 | 3 |

## PRIEST HOLMES $14

Chiefs | Age: 27 | Round: 8

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 137 | 588 | 4.3 | 32 | 221 | 2 |
| '99 BAL | 89 | 506 | 5.7 | 13 | 104 | 2 |
| '98 BAL | 233 | 1,008 | 4.3 | 43 | 260 | 7 |

## TYRONE WHEATLEY $12

Raiders | Age: 29 | Round: 9

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 232 | 1,046 | 4.5 | 20 | 156 | 10 |
| '99 OAK | 242 | 936 | 3.9 | 21 | 196 | 11 |
| '98 NYG | 14 | 52 | 3.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## TERRELL DAVIS $11

Broncos | Age: 28 | Round: 10

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 78 | 282 | 3.6 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| '99 DEN | 67 | 211 | 3.1 | 3 | 26 | 2 |
| '98 DEN | 392 | 2,008 | 5.1 | 25 | 217 | 23 |

## TIM BIAKABUTUKA $10

Panthers | Age: 27 | Round: 10

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 173 | 627 | 3.6 | 34 | 341 | 4 |
| '99 CAR | 138 | 718 | 5.2 | 23 | 189 | 6 |
| '98 CAR | 101 | 427 | 4.2 | 8 | 138 | 4 |

## DUCE STALEY $10

Eagles | Age: 26 | Round: 10

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 79 | 344 | 4.4 | 25 | 201 | 1 |
| '99 PHI | 325 | 1,273 | 3.9 | 41 | 294 | 6 |
| '98 PHI | 258 | 1,065 | 4.1 | 57 | 432 | 6 |

## MICHAEL PITTMAN $8

Cardinals | Age: 26 | Round: 11

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 184 | 719 | 3.9 | 73 | 579 | 6 |
| '99 ARI | 64 | 289 | 4.5 | 16 | 196 | 2 |
| '98 ARI (R) | 29 | 91 | 3.1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## SHAWN BRYSON $7

Bills | Age: 24 | Round: 12

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 161 | 591 | 3.7 | 32 | 271 | 2 |
| '99 BUF (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## RON DAYNE $6

Giants | Age: 23 | Round: 12

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG (R) | 228 | 770 | 3.4 | 3 | 11 | 5 |

## J.R. REDMOND $5

Patriots | Age: 23 | Round: 13

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE (R) | 125 | 406 | 3.2 | 20 | 126 | 3 |

## KEVIN FAULK $4

Patriots | Age: 25 | Round: 13

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 164 | 570 | 3.5 | 51 | 465 | 5 |
| '99 NE (R) | 67 | 227 | 3.4 | 12 | 98 | 2 |

## THOMAS JONES $4

Cardinals | Age: 23 | Round: 13

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI (R) | 112 | 373 | 3.3 | 32 | 208 | 2 |

## SHAUN ALEXANDER $3

Seahawks | Age: 24 | Round: 14

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA (R) | 64 | 313 | 4.9 | 5 | 41 | 2 |

## KEVAN BARLOW $3

49ers | Age: 22 | Round: 14
Rookie from Pittsburgh

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 197 | 1,053 | 5.3 | 16 | 174 | 10 |

## TRAVIS HENRY $3

Bills | Age: 22 | Round: 14
Rookie from Tennessee

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 270 | 1,494 | 6.1 | 14 | 76 | 12 |

## DORSEY LEVENS $3

Packers | Age: 31 | Round: 14

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 77 | 224 | 2.9 | 16 | 146 | 3 |
| '99 GB | 279 | 1,034 | 3.7 | 71 | 573 | 10 |
| '98 GB | 115 | 378 | 3.3 | 27 | 162 | 1 |

## SAMMY MORRIS $3

Bills | Age: 24 | Round: 14

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF (R) | 93 | 341 | 3.7 | 37 | 268 | 6 |

## MIKE ALSTOTT $2

Buccaneers | Age: 27 | Round: 15

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 131 | 465 | 3.5 | 13 | 93 | 5 |
| '99 TB | 242 | 949 | 3.9 | 27 | 239 | 9 |
| '98 TB | 215 | 846 | 3.9 | 22 | 152 | 9 |

## RICHI[illegible] ANDERSON $2

Jets | Age: 29 | Round: 15

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 27 | 63 | 2.3 | 88 | 853 | 2 |
| '99 NYJ | 16 | 84 | 5.3 | 29 | 302 | 3 |
| '98 NYJ | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 3 | 12 | 0 |

## LARR[illegible] CENTERS $2

Bills | Age 33 | Round: 15

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 20 | 103 | 5.2 | 80 | 600 | 3 |
| '99 WAS | 13 | 51 | 3.9 | 69 | 544 | 3 |
| '98 ARI | 31 | 110 | 3.5 | 69 | 559 | 2 |

## DEUCE McALLISTER $2

Saints | Age: 22 | Round: 15
Rookie from Mississippi

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MISS | 172 | 789 | 4.6 | 20 | 207 | 16 |

## ERRICT RHETT $2

Browns | Age: 30 | Round: 15

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 71 | 258 | 3.6 | 14 | 78 | 0 |
| '99 BAL | 236 | 852 | 3.6 | 24 | 169 | 7 |
| '98 BAL | 44 | 180 | 4.1 | 11 | 65 | 0 |

## DARNELL AUTRY $1

Eagles | Age: 25 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 112 | 334 | 3.0 | 24 | 275 | 4 |
| '99 | DNP IN NFL | | | | | |
| '98 | DNP IN NFL | | | | | |

## JOHN AVERY $1

Cowboys | Age: 25 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '01 XFL | 150 | 800 | 5.3 | 17 | 297 | 7 |
| '99 DEN | 5 | 21 | 4.2 | 4 | 24 | 0 |
| '98 MIA (R) | 143 | 503 | 3.5 | 10 | 67 | 3 |

## JERMAINE FAZANDE $1

Chargers | Age: 26 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 119 | 368 | 3.1 | 16 | 104 | 2 |
| '99 SD (R) | 91 | 365 | 4.0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

## TERRELL FLETCHER $1

Chargers | Age: 28 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 116 | 384 | 3.3 | 48 | 355 | 4 |
| '99 SD | 48 | 126 | 2.6 | 45 | 360 | 0 |
| '98 SD | 153 | 543 | 3.5 | 30 | 188 | 5 |

## GARRISON HEARST $1

49ers | Age: 30 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |
| '99 SF | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |
| '98 SF | 310 | 1,570 | 5.1 | 39 | 535 | 9 |

## BRAD HOOVER $1

Panthers | Age: 24 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR (R) | 89 | 290 | 3.3 | 15 | 112 | 1 |

## RICHARD HUNTLEY $1

Steelers | Age: 28 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 46 | 215 | 4.7 | 10 | 91 | 3 |
| '99 PIT | 93 | 567 | 6.1 | 27 | 253 | 8 |
| '98 PIT | 55 | 242 | 4.4 | 3 | 18 | 1 |

## TRAVIS PRENTICE $1

Browns | Age: 24 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE (R) | 173 | 512 | 3.0 | 37 | 191 | 8 |

## TONY RICHARDSON $1

Chiefs | Age: 29 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 147 | 697 | 4.7 | 58 | 468 | 6 |
| '99 KC | 84 | 387 | 4.6 | 24 | 141 | 1 |
| '98 KC | 20 | 45 | 2.3 | 2 | 13 | 2 |

## ANTOWAIN SMITH $1

Bills | Age: 29 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 101 | 354 | 3.5 | 3 | 20 | 4 |
| '99 BUF | 165 | 614 | 3.7 | 2 | 32 | 6 |
| '98 BUF | 300 | 1,124 | 3.7 | 5 | 11 | 8 |

## ANTHONY THOMAS $1

Bears | Age: 23 | Round: 16
Rookie from Michigan

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MICH | 319 | 1,733 | 5.4 | 17 | 271 | 19 |

## CHRIS WARREN $1

Eagles | Age: 33 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL-PHI | 74 | 296 | 4.0 | 32 | 303 | 3 |
| '99 DAL | 99 | 403 | 4.1 | 34 | 224 | 2 |
| '98 DAL | 59 | 291 | 4.9 | 13 | 66 | 5 |

## MOE WILLIAMS $1

Vikings | Age: 27 | Round: 16

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 23 | 67 | 2.9 | 4 | 31 | 0 |
| '99 MIN | 24 | 69 | 2.9 | 1 | 12 | 1 |
| '98 MIN | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 64 | 0 |

## RABIH ABDULLAH $0

Buccaneers | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 16 | 70 | 4.4 | 2 | 14 | 0 |
| '99 TB | 5 | 12 | 2.4 | 2 | 11 | 0 |
| '98 TB (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## TERRY ALLEN $0

Free agent | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 46 | 179 | 3.9 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| '99 NE | 254 | 896 | 3.5 | 14 | 125 | 9 |
| '98 WAS | 148 | 700 | 4.7 | 17 | 128 | 2 |

## KIMBLE ANDERS $0

Free agent | Age: 34 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 76 | 331 | 4.4 | 15 | 76 | 2 |
| '99 KC | 32 | 181 | 5.7 | 2 | 14 | 0 |
| '98 KC | 58 | 230 | 4.0 | 64 | 462 | 3 |

## OBAFEMI AYANBADEJO $0

Ravens | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 15 | 37 | 2.5 | 23 | 168 | 2 |
| '99 MIN-BAL | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| '98 MIN (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## MARLON BARNES $0

Bears | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI (R) | 15 | 81 | 5.4 | 1 | 7 | 0 |

## MICHAEL BASNIGHT $0

Bengals | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '99 CIN (R) | 62 | 308 | 5.0 | 16 | 172 | 0 |

## MARIO BATES $0

Lions | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 31 | 127 | 4.1 | 15 | 109 | 2 |
| '99 ARI | 72 | 202 | 2.8 | 5 | 34 | 9 |
| '98 ARI | 60 | 165 | 2.8 | 1 | 14 | 6 |

## FRED BEASLEY $0

49ers | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 50 | 147 | 2.9 | 31 | 233 | 6 |
| '99 SF | 58 | 276 | 4.8 | 32 | 282 | 4 |
| '98 SF (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 11 | 0 |

## BRANDON BENNETT $0

Bengals | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 90 | 324 | 3.6 | 19 | 168 | 3 |
| '99 CIN | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '98 CIN | 77 | 243 | 3.2 | 8 | 153 | 2 |

## DONNELL BENNETT $0

Redskins | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 27 | 24 | 0.9 | 2 | 17 | 1 |
| '99 KC | 161 | 627 | 3.9 | 10 | 41 | 8 |
| '98 KC | 148 | 527 | 3.6 | 16 | 91 | 6 |

## SEAN BENNETT $0

Giants | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '99 NYG (R) | 28 | 128 | 4.6 | 5 | 25 | 1 |

## DERRICK BLAYLOCK $0

Chiefs | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Stephen F. Austin

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SFA | 202 | 1,382 | 6.8 | 10 | 60 | 8 |

## REGGIE BROWN $0

Seahawks | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 3 | 6 | 2.0 | 2 | 9 | 0 |
| '99 SEA | 14 | 38 | 2.7 | 34 | 228 | 1 |
| '98 SEA | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## CORRELL BUCKHALTER $0

Eagles | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Nebraska

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NEB | 118 | 805 | 6.8 | 5 | 85 | 9 |

## KENNY BYNUM $0

Chargers | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 7 | 26 | 3.7 | 2 | 13 | 0 |
| '99 SD | 92 | 287 | 3.1 | 16 | 209 | 3 |
| '98 SD | 11 | 23 | 2.1 | 4 | 27 | 0 |

## TRUNG CANIDATE $0

Rams | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL (R) | 3 | 6 | 2.0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |

## TONY CARTER $0

Broncos | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 37 | 90 | 2.4 | 9 | 73 | 2 |
| '99 NE | 6 | 26 | 4.3 | 20 | 108 | 0 |
| '98 NE | 2 | 3 | 1.5 | 18 | 166 | 0 |

## ROBERT CHANCEY $0

Free agent | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 42 | 141 | 3.4 | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| '99 DAL | 14 | 57 | 4.1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '98 CHI | 29 | 122 | 4.2 | 11 | 102 | 2 |

## DOUG CHAPMAN $0

Vikings | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## BOB CHRISTIAN $0

Falcons | Age: 32 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 9 | 19 | 2.1 | 44 | 315 | 0 |
| '99 ATL | 38 | 174 | 4.6 | 40 | 354 | 7 |
| '98 ATL | 8 | 21 | 2.6 | 19 | 214 | 3 |

## MIKE CLOUD $0

Chiefs | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 30 | 84 | 2.8 | 2 | 16 | 1 |
| '99 KC (R) | 35 | 128 | 3.7 | 3 | 25 | 0 |

## KARON COLEMAN $0

Broncos | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN (R) | 54 | 183 | 3.4 | 1 | 5 | 1 |

## GREG COMELLA $0

Giants | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 10 | 45 | 4.5 | 36 | 274 | 0 |
| '99 NYG | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 39 | 0 |
| '98 NYG (R) | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |

## ZACK CROCKETT $0

Raiders | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 43 | 130 | 3.0 | 10 | 62 | 7 |
| '99 OAK | 45 | 91 | 2.0 | 8 | 56 | 5 |
| '98 IND-JAX | 2 | 5 | 2.5 | 2 | 5 | 0 |

## AUTRY DENSON $0

Dolphins | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 31 | 108 | 3.5 | 14 | 105 | 0 |
| '99 MIA (R) | 28 | 98 | 3.5 | 4 | 28 | 0 |

## REUBEN DROUGHNS $0

Lions | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## MARC EDWARDS $0

Patriots | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 2 | 9 | 4.5 | 16 | 128 | 2 |
| '99 CLE | 6 | 35 | 5.8 | 27 | 212 | 2 |
| '98 SF | 22 | 94 | 4.3 | 22 | 218 | 3 |

## ROBERT EDWARDS $0

Patriots | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |
| '99 NE | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |
| '98 NE (R) | 291 | 1,115 | 3.8 | 35 | 331 | 12 |

## WILLIAM FLOYD $0

Free agent | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 16 | 33 | 2.1 | 17 | 114 | 2 |
| '99 CAR | 35 | 78 | 2.2 | 21 | 179 | 3 |
| '98 CAR | 28 | 71 | 2.5 | 24 | 123 | 4 |

## CHRIS FUAMATU-MA'AFALA $0

Steelers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 21 | 149 | 7.1 | 11 | 107 | 1 |
| '99 PIT | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '98 PIT (R) | 7 | 30 | 4.3 | 9 | 84 | 3 |

## OLANDIS GARY $0

Broncos | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 13 | 80 | 6.2 | 3 | 10 | 0 |
| '99 DEN (R) | 276 | 1,159 | 4.2 | 21 | 159 | 7 |

## SAM GASH $0

Ravens | Age: 32 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 2 | 2 | 1.0 | 6 | 30 | 1 |
| '99 BUF | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 20 | 163 | 2 |
| '98 BUF | 11 | 32 | 2.9 | 19 | 165 | 3 |

## LENNOX GORDON $0

Colts | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 4 | 13 | 3.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '99 BUF (R) | 11 | 38 | 3.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## MIKE GREEN $0

Titans | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## HOWARD GRIFFITH — $0

Broncos | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 5 | 4 | 0.8 | 16 | 101 | 2 |
| '99 DEN | 17 | 66 | 3.9 | 26 | 192 | 2 |
| '98 DEN | 4 | 13 | 3.3 | 15 | 97 | 3 |

## CLIF GROCE — $0

Bengals | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 3 | 4 | 1.3 | 11 | 45 | 0 |
| '99 CIN | 8 | 22 | 2.8 | 25 | 154 | 1 |
| '98 IND | 10 | 66 | 6.6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## TROY HAMBRICK — $0

Cowboys | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL (R) | 6 | 28 | 4.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## BYRON HANSPARD — $0

Falcons | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |
| '99 ATL | 136 | 383 | 2.8 | 10 | 93 | 1 |
| '98 ATL | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |

## WILLIAM HENDERSON — $0

Packers | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 2 | 16 | 8.0 | 35 | 234 | 1 |
| '99 GB | 7 | 29 | 4.1 | 30 | 203 | 3 |
| '98 GB | 23 | 70 | 3.0 | 37 | 241 | 3 |

## CHRIS HETHERINGTON — $0

Panthers | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 23 | 65 | 2.8 | 14 | 116 | 3 |
| '99 CAR | 2 | 7 | 3.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '98 IND | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## SKIP HICKS — $0

Free agent | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 29 | 78 | 2.7 | 5 | 43 | 1 |
| '99 WAS | 78 | 257 | 3.3 | 8 | 72 | 3 |
| '98 WAS (R) | 122 | 433 | 3.5 | 4 | 23 | 8 |

## ROBERT HOLCOMBE — $0

Rams | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 21 | 70 | 3.3 | 8 | 90 | 4 |
| '99 STL | 78 | 294 | 3.8 | 14 | 163 | 5 |
| '98 STL (R) | 98 | 230 | 2.3 | 6 | 34 | 2 |

## SEDRICK IRVIN — $0

Lions | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 9 | 49 | 5.4 | 8 | 90 | 0 |
| '99 DET (R) | 36 | 133 | 3.7 | 25 | 233 | 4 |

## JAMES JACKSON — $0

Browns | Age: 25 | Round: FA
Rookie from Miami

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 202 | 995 | 4.9 | 12 | 71 | 13 |

## TERRY JACKSON — $0

49ers | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 5 | 6 | 1.2 | 5 | 48 | 2 |
| '99 SF (R) | 15 | 75 | 5.0 | 3 | 6 | 0 |

## RONNEY JENKINS — $0

Chargers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD (R) | 8 | 6 | 0.8 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

## ANTHONY JOHNSON — $0

Jaguars | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 28 | 112 | 4.0 | 12 | 153 | 1 |
| '99 CAR | 25 | 72 | 2.9 | 13 | 103 | 0 |
| '98 CAR | 36 | 131 | 3.6 | 27 | 242 | 1 |

## J.J. JOHNSON — $0

Dolphins | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 50 | 168 | 3.4 | 10 | 61 | 1 |
| '99 MIA (R) | 164 | 558 | 3.4 | 15 | 100 | 4 |

## LEON JOHNSON — $0

Free agent | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '99 NYJ | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '98 NYJ | 41 | 185 | 4.5 | 13 | 222 | 4 |

## RUDI JOHNSON — $0

Bengals | Age: 21 | Round: FA
Rookie from Auburn

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 AUB | 349 | 1,652 | 4.7 | 11 | 85 | 14 |

## LAMONT JORDAN — $0

Jets | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Maryland

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MD | 213 | 920 | 4.3 | 21 | 287 | 11 |

## RANDY JORDAN — $0

Raiders | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 46 | 213 | 4.6 | 27 | 299 | 4 |
| '99 OAK | 9 | 32 | 3.6 | 8 | 82 | 2 |
| '98 OAK | 47 | 159 | 3.4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

## CURTIS KEATON — $0

Bengals | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN (R) | 6 | 24 | 4.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## TERRY KIRBY — $0

Raiders | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 11 | 51 | 4.6 | 3 | 19 | 0 |
| '99 CLE | 130 | 452 | 3.5 | 58 | 528 | 9 |
| '98 SF | 48 | 258 | 5.4 | 16 | 134 | 3 |

## JIMMY KLEINSASSER — $0

Vikings | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 12 | 43 | 3.6 | 10 | 98 | 0 |
| '99 MIN (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 13 | 0 |

## ROB KONRAD — $0

Dolphins | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 15 | 39 | 2.6 | 14 | 83 | 0 |
| '99 MIA (R) | 9 | 16 | 1.8 | 34 | 251 | 1 |

## DAN KREIDER — $0

Steelers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT (R) | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 5 | 42 | 0 |

## JONATHAN LINTON — $0

Bills | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 38 | 112 | 2.9 | 3 | 8 | 1 |
| '99 BUF | 205 | 695 | 3.4 | 29 | 228 | 6 |
| '98 BUF (R) | 45 | 195 | 4.3 | 1 | 10 | 1 |

## STACEY MACK — $0

Jaguars | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 54 | 145 | 2.7 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| '99 JAX (R) | 7 | 40 | 5.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## JOEL MAKOVICKA — $0

Cardinals | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 3 | 8 | 2.7 | 6 | 18 | 0 |
| '99 ARI (R) | 8 | 7 | 0.9 | 10 | 70 | 1 |

## CECIL MARTIN — $0

Eagles | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | RUSH | YDS. | YPC | REC. | YDS. | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 13 | 77 | 5.9 | 31 | 219 | 0 |
| '99 PHI (R) | 3 | 3 | 1.0 | 11 | 22 | 0 |

## FRED McCRARY — $0

Chargers | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | RUSH | YDS. | YPC | REC. | YDS. | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 7 | 8 | 1.1 | 18 | 141 | 2 |
| '99 SD | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 37 | 201 | 1 |
| '98 NO | 8 | 15 | 1.9 | 4 | 17 | 0 |

## ERIC METCALF — $0

Raiders | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | DNP IN NFL | | | | | |
| '99 CAR | 2 | 20 | 10.0 | 11 | 133 | 0 |
| '98 ARI | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 31 | 324 | 0 |

## GLYN MILBURN — $0

Bears | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| '99 CHI | 16 | 102 | 6.4 | 20 | 151 | 1 |
| '98 CHI | 4 | 8 | 2.0 | 4 | 37 | 0 |

## TRAVIS MINOR — $0

Dolphins | Age: 21 | Round: FA
Rookie from Florida State

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 FSU | 194 | 943 | 4.9 | 46 | 344 | 5 |

## BRIAN MITCHELL — $0

Eagles | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 25 | 187 | 7.5 | 13 | 89 | 3 |
| '99 WAS | 40 | 220 | 5.5 | 31 | 305 | 1 |
| '98 WAS | 39 | 208 | 5.3 | 44 | 306 | 2 |

## JOE MONTGOMERY — $0

Giants | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| '99 NYG (R) | 115 | 348 | 3.0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |

## JERALD MOORE — $0

Saints | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 37 | 156 | 4.2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| '99 | DNP IN NFL | | | | | |
| '98 STL | 55 | 137 | 2.5 | 9 | 60 | 2 |

## FRANK MOREAU — $0

Chiefs | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC (R) | 67 | 179 | 2.7 | 0 | 0 | 4 |

## CHAD MORTON — $0

Saints | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO (R) | 36 | 136 | 3.8 | 30 | 213 | 0 |

## ADRIAN MURRELL — $0

Panthers | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 20 | 50 | 2.5 | 16 | 93 | 0 |
| '99 ARI | 193 | 553 | 2.9 | 49 | 335 | 0 |
| '98 ARI | 274 | 1,042 | 3.8 | 18 | 169 | 10 |

## LORENZO NEAL — $0

Bengals | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | 9 | 31 | 2 |
| '99 TEN | 2 | 1 | 0.5 | 7 | 27 | 3 |
| '98 TB | 5 | 25 | 5.0 | 5 | 14 | 1 |

### DE'MOND PARKER — $0
Packers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 18 | 85 | 4.7 | 9 | 50 | 0 |
| '99 GB (R) | 36 | 184 | 5.1 | 4 | 15 | 2 |

### BERNIE PARMALEE — $0
Free agent | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 27 | 87 | 3.2 | 9 | 66 | 2 |
| '99 NYJ | 27 | 133 | 4.9 | 15 | 113 | 0 |
| '98 MIA | 8 | 20 | 2.5 | 21 | 221 | 0 |

### PATRICK PASS — $0
Patriots | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE (R) | 18 | 58 | 3.2 | 4 | 17 | 0 |

### STANLEY PRITCHETT — $0
Eagles | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 58 | 225 | 3.9 | 25 | 193 | 1 |
| '99 MIA | 47 | 158 | 3.4 | 43 | 312 | 5 |
| '98 MIA | 6 | 19 | 3.2 | 17 | 97 | 1 |

### JON RITCHIE — $0
Raiders | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 26 | 173 | 0 |
| '99 OAK | 5 | 12 | 2.4 | 45 | 408 | 1 |
| '98 OAK (R) | 9 | 23 | 2.6 | 29 | 225 | 0 |

### RON RIVERS — $0
Falcons | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 8 | 27 | 3.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '99 DET | 82 | 295 | 3.6 | 22 | 173 | 1 |
| '98 DET | 19 | 102 | 5.4 | 3 | 58 | 1 |

### CORY SCHLESINGER — $0
Lions | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 12 | 73 | 0 |
| '99 DET | 43 | 124 | 2.9 | 21 | 151 | 1 |
| '98 DET | 5 | 17 | 3.4 | 3 | 16 | 1 |

### MAURICE SMITH — $0
Falcons | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL (R) | 19 | 69 | 3.6 | 1 | 5 | 0 |

### PAUL SMITH — $0
49ers | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF (R) | 18 | 72 | 4.0 | 2 | 55 | 0 |

### TERRELLE SMITH — $0
Saints | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO (R) | 29 | 131 | 4.5 | 12 | 65 | 0 |

### SHYRONE STITH — $0
Jaguars | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX (R) | 20 | 55 | 2.8 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

### MACK STRONG — $0
Seahawks | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 3 | 9 | 3.0 | 23 | 141 | 1 |
| '99 SEA | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| '98 SEA | 15 | 47 | 3.1 | 8 | 48 | 2 |

### ROBERT THOMAS — $0
Cowboys | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 15 | 51 | 3.4 | 23 | 117 | 2 |
| '99 DAL | 8 | 35 | 4.4 | 10 | 64 | 0 |
| '98 DAL (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

### RODNEY THOMAS — $0
Free agent | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 61 | 175 | 2.9 | 8 | 35 | 1 |
| '99 TEN | 43 | 164 | 3.8 | 9 | 72 | 1 |
| '98 TEN | 24 | 100 | 4.2 | 6 | 55 | 2 |

### LAMONT WARREN — $0
Lions | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |
| '99 NE | 35 | 120 | 3.4 | 29 | 262 | 1 |
| '98 IND | 25 | 61 | 2.4 | 11 | 44 | 2 |

### JUSTIN WATSON — $0
Rams | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 54 | 249 | 4.6 | 10 | 56 | 4 |
| '99 STL (R) | 47 | 179 | 3.8 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

### MICHAEL WILEY — $0
Cowboys | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL (R) | 24 | 88 | 3.7 | 14 | 72 | 1 |

### AMOS ZEREOUE — $0
Steelers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | CAR | YDS | YPC | REC | YDS | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 6 | 14 | 2.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| '99 PIT (R) | 18 | 48 | 2.7 | 2 | 17 | 0 |


2001 PREVIEW Sports

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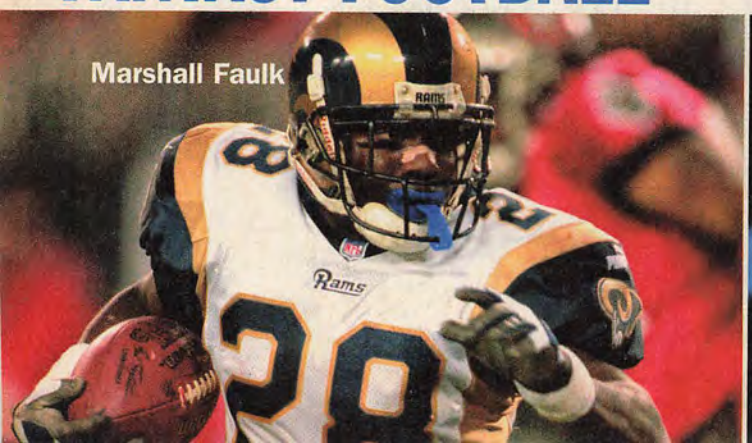


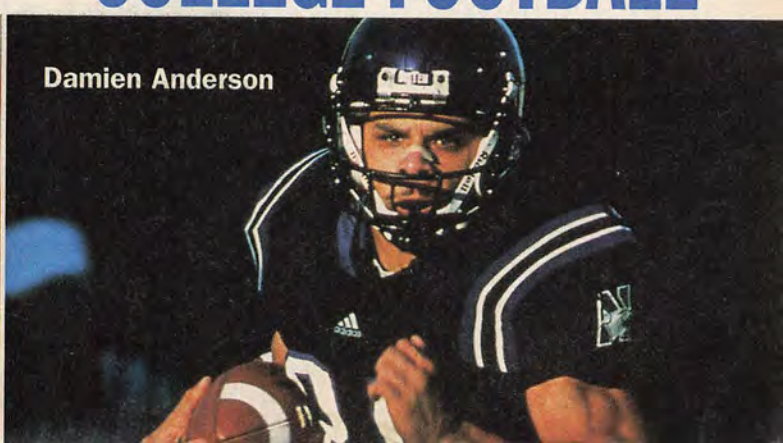

# WIDE RECEIVERS

## THE SKINNY

**MOST OVERRATED**

**KEYSHAWN JOHNSON**
He's a glorified possession receiver.

**J.J. STOKES**
Stokes won't remind fans of Jerry Rice.

**MOST UNDERRATED**

**JEFF GRAHAM**
Set for best year yet with Flutie around.

**AMANI TOOMER**
Top beneficiary of Kerry Collins' growth.

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYERS**

**MATTHEW HATCHETTE**
Ex-Viking will play a lot more with Jets.

**SYLVESTER MORRIS**
Watch the Trent Green-to-Morris hookup.

**BREAKTHROUGH ROOKIES**

**KOREN ROBINSON**
A burner who can score on every touch.

**DAVID TERRELL**
Bears really need his speed, athleticism.

**MOST INJURY-PRONE**

**ANTONIO FREEMAN**
Pack took Robert Ferguson just in case.

**HERMAN MOORE**
Brittle wideout has seriously declined.

**COMEBACK PLAYERS**

**JOEY GALLOWAY**
ACL injury K.O.'d him in 2000 opener.

**ROB MOORE**
Pro Bowl-caliber skills when he's 100%.

Marvin Harrison (Colts) and Randy Moss (Vikings) are two great ones for many reasons. Both catch lots of touchdown passes and rack up the yardage. Last year Harrison beat Moss in total catches, 102-77, but Moss had more yards. Either one can carry your team. Not far behind that duo are quick-developing Eric Moulds of Buffalo and Terrell Owens of San Francisco. Try keeping up with the Smiths: Jacksonville's Jimmy and Denver's Rod are consistently among league leaders in receptions and yardage. St. Louis' Isaac Bruce and Torry Holt are great receivers who benefit from playing in the league's most lethal offense. Cris Carter, Moss' teammate, says he will retire after the 2001 season, but he is still a solid pick this year. Keyshawn Johnson of the Bucs could well return to his 1,000-yard form now that Tampa Bay's quarterback situation is in better shape. David Boston was Arizona's primary wideout after Rob Moore went down last preseason, but now Moore's back. Oakland's Tim Brown is looking to post his ninth consecutive 1,000-yard season. Watch Darrell Jackson and Koren Robinson as they revive Seattle's vertical game.

## PLAYER STATS

### RANDY MOSS — $36
Vikings | Age: 24 | Round: 1

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 77 | 1,437 | 18.7 | 15 |
| '99 MIN | 80 | 1,413 | 17.7 | 11 |
| '98 MIN (R) | 69 | 1,313 | 19.0 | 17 |

### MARVIN HARRISON — $34
Colts | Age: 29 | Round: 2

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 102 | 1,413 | 13.9 | 14 |
| '99 IND | 115 | 1,663 | 14.5 | 12 |
| '98 IND | 59 | 776 | 13.2 | 7 |

### ERIC MOULDS — $34
Bills | Age: 28 | Round: 2

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 94 | 1,326 | 14.1 | 5 |
| '99 BUF | 65 | 994 | 15.3 | 7 |
| '98 BUF | 67 | 1,368 | 20.4 | 9 |

### TERRELL OWENS — $33
49ers | Age: 27 | Round: 2

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 97 | 1,451 | 15.0 | 13 |
| '99 SF | 60 | 754 | 12.6 | 4 |
| '98 SF | 67 | 1,097 | 16.4 | 14 |

### ISAAC BRUCE — $32
Rams | Age: 28 | Round: 2

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 87 | 1,471 | 16.9 | 9 |
| '99 STL | 77 | 1,165 | 15.1 | 12 |
| '98 STL | 32 | 457 | 14.3 | 1 |

### ROD SMITH — $32
Broncos | Age: 31 | Round: 2

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 100 | 1,602 | 16.0 | 8 |
| '99 DEN | 79 | 1,020 | 12.9 | 4 |
| '98 DEN | 86 | 1,222 | 14.2 | 6 |

### JIMMY SMITH — $31
Jaguars | Age: 32 | Round: 2

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 91 | 1,213 | 13.3 | 8 |
| '99 JAX | 116 | 1,636 | 14.1 | 6 |
| '98 JAX | 78 | 1,182 | 15.2 | 8 |

### TORRY HOLT — $30
Rams | Age: 25 | Round: 3

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 82 | 1,635 | 19.9 | 6 |
| '99 STL (R) | 52 | 788 | 15.2 | 6 |

### CRIS CARTER — $28
Vikings | Age: 35 | Round: 3

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 96 | 1,274 | 13.3 | 9 |
| '99 MIN | 90 | 1,241 | 13.8 | 13 |
| '98 MIN | 78 | 1,011 | 13.0 | 12 |

### DAVID BOSTON — $27
Cardinals | Age: 23 | Round: 4

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 71 | 1,156 | 16.3 | 7 |
| '99 ARI (R) | 40 | 473 | 11.8 | 2 |

### KEYSHAWN JOHNSON — $27
Buccaneers | Age: 29 | Round: 4

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 71 | 874 | 12.3 | 8 |
| '99 NYJ | 89 | 1,170 | 13.1 | 8 |
| '98 NYJ | 83 | 1,131 | 13.6 | 10 |

### JOE HORN — $26
Saints | Age: 29 | Round: 4

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 94 | 1,340 | 14.3 | 8 |
| '99 KC | 35 | 586 | 16.7 | 6 |
| '98 KC | 14 | 198 | 14.1 | 1 |

### ED McCAFFREY — $25
Broncos | Age: 33 | Round: 4

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 101 | 1,317 | 13.0 | 9 |
| '99 DEN | 71 | 1,018 | 14.3 | 7 |
| '98 DEN | 64 | 1,053 | 16.5 | 10 |

### MUHSIN MUHAMMAD — $25
Panthers | Age: 28 | Round: 4

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 102 | 1,183 | 11.6 | 6 |
| '99 CAR | 96 | 1,253 | 13.1 | 8 |
| '98 CAR | 68 | 941 | 13.8 | 6 |

### MARCUS ROBINSON — $25
Bears | Age: 26 | Round: 4

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 55 | 738 | 13.4 | 5 |
| '99 CHI | 84 | 1,400 | 16.7 | 9 |
| '98 CHI (R) | 4 | 44 | 11.0 | 1 |

### DERRICK ALEXANDER — $24
Chiefs | Age: 29 | Round: 5

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 78 | 1,391 | 17.8 | 10 |
| '99 KC | 54 | 832 | 15.4 | 2 |
| '98 KC | 54 | 992 | 18.4 | 4 |

### TIM BROWN — $24
Raiders | Age: 35 | Round: 5

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 76 | 1,128 | 14.8 | 11 |
| '99 OAK | 90 | 1,344 | 14.9 | 6 |
| '98 OAK | 81 | 1,012 | 12.5 | 9 |

### GERMANE CROWELL — $23
Lions | Age: 24 | Round: 5

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 34 | 430 | 12.6 | 3 |
| '99 DET | 81 | 1,338 | 16.5 | 7 |
| '98 DET (R) | 25 | 464 | 18.6 | 3 |

### MICHAEL WESTBROOK — $23
Redskins | Age: 29 | Round: 5

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 9 | 103 | 11.4 | 0 |
| '99 WAS | 65 | 1,191 | 18.3 | 9 |
| '98 WAS | 44 | 736 | 16.7 | 6 |

### ANTONIO FREEMAN — $22
Packers | Age: 29 | Round: 5

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 62 | 912 | 14.7 | 9 |
| '99 GB | 74 | 1,074 | 14.5 | 6 |
| '98 GB | 84 | 1,424 | 17.0 | 14 |

### AMANI TOOMER — $22
Giants | Age: 26 | Round: 5

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 78 | 1,094 | 14.0 | 7 |
| '99 NYG | 79 | 1,183 | 15.0 | 6 |
| '98 NYG | 27 | 360 | 13.3 | 5 |

### DERRICK MASON — $21
Titans | Age: 27 | Round: 6

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 63 | 895 | 14.2 | 5 |
| '99 TEN | 8 | 89 | 11.1 | 0 |
| '98 TEN | 25 | 333 | 13.3 | 3 |

### TERRY GLENN — $20
Patriots | Age: 27 | Round: 6

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 79 | 963 | 12.2 | 6 |
| '99 NE | 69 | 1,147 | 16.6 | 4 |
| '98 NE | 50 | 792 | 15.8 | 3 |

### PETER WARRICK — $20
Bengals | Age: 24 | Round: 6

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN (R) | 51 | 592 | 11.6 | 4 |

## KEENAN McCARDELL — $19

Jaguars | Age: 31 | Round: 6

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 94 | 1,207 | 12.8 | 5 |
| '99 JAX | 78 | 891 | 11.4 | 5 |
| '98 JAX | 64 | 892 | 13.9 | 6 |

## TROY BROWN — $18

Patriots | Age: 30 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 83 | 944 | 11.4 | 4 |
| '99 NE | 36 | 471 | 13.1 | 1 |
| '98 NE | 23 | 346 | 15.0 | 1 |

## DONALD HAYES — $17

Panthers | Age: 26 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 66 | 926 | 14.0 | 3 |
| '99 CAR | 11 | 270 | 24.5 | 2 |
| '98 CAR (R) | 3 | 62 | 20.7 | 0 |

## IKE HILLIARD — $17

Giants | Age: 25 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 55 | 787 | 14.3 | 8 |
| '99 NYG | 72 | 996 | 13.8 | 3 |
| '98 NYG | 51 | 715 | 14.0 | 2 |

## KEVIN DYSON — $16

Titans | Age: 26 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 6 | 104 | 17.3 | 1 |
| '99 TEN | 54 | 658 | 12.2 | 4 |
| '98 TEN (R) | 21 | 263 | 12.5 | 2 |

## JOEY GALLOWAY — $16

Cowboys | Age: 29 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 4 | 62 | 15.5 | 1 |
| '99 SEA | 22 | 335 | 15.2 | 1 |
| '98 SEA | 65 | 1,047 | 16.1 | 10 |

## KEVIN JOHNSON — $16

Browns | Age: 26 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 57 | 669 | 11.7 | 0 |
| '99 CLE (R) | 66 | 986 | 14.9 | 8 |

## SYLVESTER MORRIS — $16

Chiefs | Age: 23 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC (R) | 48 | 678 | 14.1 | 3 |

## JOHNNIE MORTON — $16

Lions | Age: 29 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 61 | 788 | 12.9 | 3 |
| '99 DET | 80 | 1,129 | 14.1 | 5 |
| '98 DET | 69 | 1,028 | 14.9 | 2 |

## PEERLESS PRICE — $16

Bills | Age: 24 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 52 | 762 | 14.7 | 3 |
| '99 BUF (R) | 31 | 393 | 12.7 | 3 |

## KOREN ROBINSON — $15

Seahawks | Age: 21 | Round: 8
Rookie from North Carolina State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NCST | 62 | 1,061 | 17.1 | 13 |

## JERRY RICE — $14

Free agent | Age: 38 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 75 | 805 | 10.7 | 7 |
| '99 SF | 67 | 830 | 12.4 | 5 |
| '98 SF | 82 | 1,157 | 14.1 | 9 |

## BILL SCHROEDER — $14

Packers | Age: 30 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 65 | 999 | 15.4 | 4 |
| '99 GB | 74 | 1,051 | 14.2 | 5 |
| '98 GB | 31 | 452 | 14.6 | |

## DAVID TERRELL — $14

Bears | Age: 22 | Round: 8
Rookie from Michigan

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MICH | 67 | 1,130 | 16.9 | 14 |

## WAYNE CHREBET — $13

Jets | Age: 28 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 69 | 937 | 13.6 | 8 |
| '99 NYJ | 48 | 631 | 13.1 | 3 |
| '98 NYJ | 75 | 1,083 | 14.4 | 8 |

## ALBERT CONNELL — $13

Saints | Age: 27 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 39 | 762 | 19.5 | 3 |
| '99 WAS | 62 | 1,132 | 18.3 | 7 |
| '98 WAS | 28 | 451 | 16.1 | 2 |

## ROD GARDNER — $13

Redskins | Age: 23 | Round: 9
Rookie from Clemson

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLEMSON | 51 | 956 | 18.7 | 6 |

## JACQUEZ GREEN — $13

Buccaneers | Age: 25 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 51 | 773 | 15.2 | 1 |
| '99 TB | 56 | 791 | 14.1 | 3 |
| '98 TB (R) | 14 | 251 | 17.9 | 2 |

## QADRY ISMAIL — $13

Ravens | Age: 30 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 49 | 655 | 13.4 | 5 |
| '99 BAL | 68 | 1,105 | 16.3 | 6 |
| '98 NO | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## JEFF GRAHAM — $12

Chargers | Age: 32 | Round: 9

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 55 | 907 | 16.5 | 4 |
| '99 SD | 57 | 968 | 17.0 | 2 |
| '98 PHI | 47 | 600 | 12.8 | 2 |

## PATRICK JEFFERS — $12

Panthers | Age: 28 | Round: 9

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | DNP-INJURED | | | |
| '99 CAR | 63 | 1,082 | 17.2 | 12 |
| '98 DAL | 18 | 330 | 18.3 | 2 |

## TERANCE MATHIS — $12

Falcons | Age: 34 | Round: 9

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 57 | 679 | 11.9 | 5 |
| '99 ATL | 81 | 1,016 | 12.5 | 6 |
| '98 ATL | 64 | 1,136 | 17.8 | 11 |

## SANTANA MOSS — $12

Jets | Age: 22 | Round: 9
Rookie from Miami

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 45 | 748 | 16.6 | 5 |

## FRANK SANDERS — $12

Cardinals | Age: 28 | Round: 9

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 54 | 749 | 13.9 | 6 |
| '99 ARI | 79 | 954 | 12.1 | 1 |
| '98 ARI | 89 | 1,145 | 12.9 | 3 |

## AZ-ZAHIR HAKIM — $11

Rams | Age: 24 | Round: 9

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 53 | 734 | 13.8 | 4 |
| '99 STL | 36 | 677 | 18.8 | 8 |
| '98 STL (R) | 20 | 247 | 12.4 | 1 |

## DARRELL JACKSON — $11

Seahawks | Age: 22 | Round: 9

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA (R) | 53 | 713 | 13.5 | 6 |

## CHAD JOHNSON — $11

Bengals | Age: 23 | Round: 10
Rookie from Oregon State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OSU | 37 | 806 | 21.8 | 8 |

## TRAVIS TAYLOR — $11

Ravens | Age: 23 | Round: 9

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL (R) | 28 | 276 | 9.9 | 3 |

## LAVERANUES COLES — $10

Jets | Age: 23 | Round: 10

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ (R) | 22 | 370 | 16.8 | 1 |

## SHAWN JEFFERSON — $10

Falcons | Age: 32 | Round: 10

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 60 | 822 | 13.7 | 2 |
| '99 NE | 40 | 698 | 17.5 | 6 |
| '98 NE | 34 | 771 | 22.7 | 2 |

## JEREMY McDANIEL — $10

Bills | Age: 25 | Round: 10

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 43 | 697 | 16.2 | 2 |
| '99 BUF (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## FREDDIE MITCHELL — $10

Eagles | Age: 22 | Round: 10
Rookie from UCLA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UCLA | 77 | 1,494 | 19.4 | 9 |

## BOBBY ENGRAM — $9

Bears | Age: 28 | Round: 10

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 16 | 109 | 6.8 | 0 |
| '99 CHI | 88 | 947 | 10.8 | 4 |
| '98 CHI | 64 | 987 | 15.4 | 5 |

## ROBERT FERGUSON — $9

Packers | Age: 21 | Round: 11
Rookie from Texas A&M

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 A&M | 58 | 885 | 15.3 | 6 |

## DARNAY SCOTT — $9

Bengals | Age: 29 | Round: 10

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | DNP-INJURED | | | |
| '99 CIN | 68 | 1,022 | 15.0 | 7 |
| '98 CIN | 51 | 817 | 16.0 | 7 |

## JAMES THRASH — $9

Eagles | Age: 26 | Round: 10

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 50 | 653 | 13.1 | 2 |
| '99 WAS | 3 | 44 | 14.7 | 0 |
| '98 WAS | 10 | 163 | 16.3 | 1 |

## DEDRIC WARD — $9

Dolphins | Age: 26 | Round: 10

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 54 | 801 | 14.8 | 3 |
| '99 NYJ | 22 | 325 | 14.8 | 3 |
| '98 NYJ | 25 | 477 | 19.1 | 4 |

## ORONDE GADSDEN — $8
Dolphins | Age: 30 | Round: 11

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 56 | 786 | 14.0 | 6 |
| '99 MIA | 48 | 803 | 16.7 | 6 |
| '98 MIA (R) | 48 | 713 | 14.9 | 7 |

## HINES WARD — $8
Steelers | Age: 25 | Round: 11

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 48 | 672 | 14.0 | 4 |
| '99 PIT | 61 | 638 | 10.5 | 7 |
| '98 PIT (R) | 15 | 246 | 16.4 | 0 |

## MATTHEW HATCHETTE — $7
Jets | Age: 27 | Round: 11

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 16 | 190 | 11.9 | 2 |
| '99 MIN | 9 | 180 | 20.0 | 2 |
| '98 MIN | 15 | 216 | 14.4 | 0 |

## WILLIE JACKSON — $7
Saints | Age: 30 | Round: 11

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 37 | 523 | 14.1 | 6 |
| '99 CIN | 31 | 369 | 11.9 | 2 |
| '98 CIN | 7 | 165 | 23.6 | 0 |

## QUINCY MORGAN — $7
Browns | Age: 23 | Round: 12
Rookie from Kansas State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KSU | 64 | 1,166 | 18.2 | 14 |

## ANDRE RISON — $7
Free agent | Age: 34 | Round: 11

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 41 | 606 | 14.8 | 6 |
| '99 KC | 21 | 218 | 10.4 | 0 |
| '98 KC | 40 | 542 | 13.6 | 5 |

## J.J. STOKES — $7
49ers | Age: 28 | Round: 11

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 30 | 524 | 17.5 | 3 |
| '99 SF | 34 | 429 | 12.6 | 3 |
| '98 SF | 63 | 770 | 12.2 | 8 |

## PLAXICO BURRESS — $6
Steelers | Age: 24 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT (R) | 22 | 273 | 12.4 | 0 |

## CURTIS CONWAY — $6
Chargers | Age: 30 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 53 | 712 | 13.4 | 5 |
| '99 CHI | 44 | 426 | 9.7 | 4 |
| '98 CHI | 54 | 733 | 13.6 | 3 |

## SEAN DAWKINS — $6
Free agent | Age: 30 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 63 | 731 | 11.6 | 5 |
| '99 SEA | 58 | 992 | 17.1 | 7 |
| '98 NO | 53 | 823 | 15.5 | 1 |

## CHARLES JOHNSON — $6
Free agent | Age: 29 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 56 | 642 | 11.5 | 7 |
| '99 PHI | 34 | 414 | 12.2 | 1 |
| '98 PIT | 65 | 815 | 12.5 | 7 |

## KEVIN LOCKETT — $6
Redskins | Age: 26 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 33 | 422 | 12.8 | 2 |
| '99 KC | 34 | 426 | 12.5 | 2 |
| '98 KC | 19 | 281 | 14.8 | 0 |

## O.J. McDUFFIE — $5
Dolphins | Age: 31 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 14 | 143 | 10.2 | 0 |
| '99 MIA | 43 | 516 | 12.0 | 2 |
| '98 MIA | 90 | 1,050 | 11.7 | 7 |

## REGGIE WAYNE — $5
Colts | Age: 22 | Round: 13
Rookie from Miami

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 U-MIA | 43 | 755 | 17.6 | 10 |

## CHRIS CHAMBERS — $4
Dolphins | Age: 22 | Round: 14
Rookie from Wisconsin

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UW | 52 | 813 | 15.6 | 5 |

## HERMAN MOORE — $4
Lions | Age: 31 | Round: 13

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 40 | 434 | 10.9 | 3 |
| '99 DET | 16 | 197 | 12.3 | 2 |
| '98 DET | 82 | 983 | 12.0 | 5 |

## JEROME PATHON — $4
Colts | Age: 25 | Round: 13

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 50 | 646 | 12.9 | 3 |
| '99 IND | 14 | 163 | 11.6 | 0 |
| '98 IND (R) | 50 | 511 | 10.2 | 1 |

## TERRENCE WILKINS — $4
Colts | Age: 26 | Round: 13

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 43 | 569 | 13.2 | 3 |
| '99 IND (R) | 42 | 565 | 13.5 | 4 |

## TONY HORNE — $3
Chiefs | Age: 25 | Round: 14

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 4 | 32 | 8.0 | 0 |
| '99 STL | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| '98 STL (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## RAGHIB ISMAIL — $3
Cowboys | Age: 31 | Round: 14

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 25 | 350 | 14.0 | 1 |
| '99 DAL | 80 | 1,097 | 13.7 | 6 |
| '98 CAR | 69 | 1,024 | 14.8 | 8 |

## JERMAINE LEWIS — $3
Ravens | Age: 26 | Round: 14

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 19 | 161 | 8.5 | 1 |
| '99 BAL | 25 | 281 | 11.2 | 2 |
| '98 BAL | 41 | 784 | 19.1 | 6 |

## RICKY PROEHL — $3
Rams | Age: 33 | Round: 14

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 31 | 441 | 14.2 | 4 |
| '99 STL | 33 | 349 | 10.6 | 0 |
| '98 STL | 60 | 771 | 12.9 | 3 |

## TIM DWIGHT — $2
Chargers | Age 26 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 26 | 406 | 15.6 | 3 |
| '99 ATL | 32 | 669 | 20.9 | 7 |
| '98 ATL (R) | 4 | 94 | 23.5 | 1 |

## PATRICK JOHNSON — $2
Ravens | Age: 25 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 12 | 156 | 13.0 | 2 |
| '99 BAL | 29 | 526 | 18.1 | 3 |
| '98 BAL (R) | 12 | 159 | 13.3 | 1 |

## EDDIE KENNISON — $2
Broncos | Age: 28 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 55 | 549 | 10.0 | 2 |
| '99 NO | 61 | 835 | 13.7 | 4 |
| '98 STL | 17 | 234 | 13.8 | 1 |

## DERRICK MAYES — $2
Free agent | Age: 27 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 29 | 264 | 9.1 | 1 |
| '99 SEA | 62 | 829 | 13.4 | 10 |
| '98 GB | 30 | 394 | 13.1 | 3 |

## JAMES McKNIGHT — $2
Dolphins | Age: 29 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 52 | 926 | 17.8 | 2 |
| '99 SEA | 21 | 346 | 16.5 | 2 |
| '98 SEA | 34 | 637 | 18.7 | 6 |

## MARVIN MINNIS — $2
Chiefs | Age: 24 | Round: 15
Rookie from Florida State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 FSU | 63 | 1,340 | 21.3 | 11 |

## BOBBY SHAW — $2
Steelers | Age: 26 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 40 | 672 | 16.8 | 4 |
| '99 PIT | 28 | 387 | 13.8 | 3 |
| '98 SEA (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## MARTY BOOKER — $1
Bears | Age: 25 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI | 47 | 490 | 10.4 | 2 |
| '99 CHI (R) | 19 | 219 | 11.5 | 3 |

## JaJUAN DAWSON — $1
Browns | Age: 23 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE (R) | 9 | 97 | 10.8 | 1 |

## DONALD DRIVER — $1
Packers | Age: 26 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 21 | 322 | 15.3 | 1 |
| '99 GB (R) | 3 | 31 | 10.3 | 1 |

## TROY EDWARDS — $1
Steelers | Age: 24 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 18 | 215 | 11.9 | 0 |
| '99 PIT (R) | 61 | 714 | 11.7 | 5 |

## E.G. GREEN — $1
Colts | Age: 26 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 18 | 201 | 11.2 | 1 |
| '99 IND | 21 | 287 | 13.7 | 0 |
| '98 IND (R) | 15 | 177 | 11.8 | 1 |

## ROB MOORE — $1
Cardinals | Age: 32 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | DNP-INJURED | | | |
| '99 ARI | 37 | 621 | 16.8 | 5 |
| '98 ARI | 67 | 982 | 14.7 | 5 |

## DENNIS NORTHCUTT — $1
Browns | Age: 23 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE (R) | 39 | 422 | 10.8 | 0 |

## DAVID PATTEN — $1
Patriots | Age: 27 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 38 | 546 | 14.4 | 1 |
| '99 NYG | 9 | 115 | 12.8 | 0 |
| '98 NYG | 11 | 119 | 10.8 | 1 |

## CARL PICKENS — $1
Cowboys | Age: 31 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 10 | 242 | 24.2 | 0 |
| '99 CIN | 57 | 737 | 12.9 | 6 |
| '98 CIN | 82 | 1,023 | 12.5 | 5 |

## JAKE REED — $1
Vikings | Age: 33 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 16 | 206 | 12.9 | 0 |
| '99 MIN | 44 | 643 | 14.6 | 2 |
| '98 MIN | 34 | 474 | 13.9 | 4 |

## YANCEY THIGPEN — $1
Free agent | Age: 32 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 15 | 289 | 19.3 | 2 |
| '99 TEN | 38 | 648 | 17.1 | 4 |
| '98 TEN | 38 | 493 | 13.0 | 3 |

## SCOTTY ANDERSON — $0
Lions | Age: 21 | Round: FA
Rookie from Grambling

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GRAM | 76 | 1,298 | 17.8 | 11 |

## REIDEL ANTHONY — $0
Buccaneers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 15 | 232 | 15.5 | 4 |
| '99 TB | 30 | 296 | 9.9 | 1 |
| '98 TB | 51 | 708 | 13.9 | 7 |

## EDDIE BERLIN — $0
Titans | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Northern Iowa

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NIU | 74 | 1,195 | 16.1 | 16 |

## COREY BRADFORD — $0
Packers | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| '99 GB | 37 | 637 | 17.2 | 5 |
| '98 GB (R) | 3 | 27 | 9.0 | 0 |

## NA BROWN — $0
Eagles | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 9 | 80 | 8.9 | 1 |
| '99 PHI (R) | 18 | 188 | 10.4 | 1 |

## ISAAC BYRD — $0
Panthers | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 22 | 241 | 11.0 | 2 |
| '99 TEN | 14 | 261 | 18.6 | 2 |
| '98 TEN (R) | 6 | 71 | 11.8 | 0 |

## CHRIS CALLOWAY — $0
Free agent | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 5 | 95 | 19.0 | 0 |
| '99 ATL | 22 | 314 | 14.3 | 1 |
| '98 NYG | 62 | 812 | 13.1 | 6 |

## DARRIN CHIAVERINI — $0
Browns | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 8 | 68 | 8.5 | 1 |
| '99 CLE (R) | 44 | 487 | 11.1 | 4 |

## RON DUGANS — $0
Bengals | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN (R) | 14 | 125 | 8.9 | 1 |

## BERT EMANUEL — $0
Patriots | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 7 | 132 | 18.9 | 1 |
| '99 TB | 22 | 238 | 10.8 | 1 |
| '98 TB | 41 | 636 | 15.5 | 2 |

## IRVING FRYAR — $0
Free agent | Age: 38 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 41 | 548 | 13.4 | 5 |
| '99 WAS | 26 | 254 | 9.8 | 2 |
| '98 PHI | 48 | 556 | 11.6 | 2 |

## JAMMI GERMAN — $0
Falcons | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 0 |
| '99 ATL | 12 | 219 | 18.3 | 3 |
| '98 ATL (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## REGGIE GERMANY — $0
Bills | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Ohio State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OSU | 22 | 366 | 16.6 | 1 |

## COURTNEY HAWKINS — $0
Steelers | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 19 | 238 | 12.5 | 1 |
| '99 PIT | 30 | 285 | 9.5 | 0 |
| '98 PIT | 66 | 751 | 11.4 | 1 |

## CEDRIC JAMES — $0
Vikings | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Texas Christian

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TCU | 19 | 310 | 16.3 | 3 |

## JAMES JETT — $0
Raiders | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 20 | 356 | 17.8 | 2 |
| '99 OAK | 39 | 552 | 14.2 | 2 |
| '98 OAK | 45 | 882 | 19.6 | 6 |

## JOE JUREVICIUS — $0
Giants | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 24 | 272 | 11.3 | 1 |
| '99 NYG | 18 | 318 | 17.7 | 1 |
| '98 NYG (R) | 9 | 146 | 16.2 | 0 |

## KEVIN KASPER — $0
Broncos | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Iowa

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IOWA | 82 | 1,010 | 12.3 | 7 |

## TONY MARTIN — $0
Free agent | Age: 35 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 26 | 393 | 15.1 | 0 |
| '99 MIA | 67 | 1,037 | 15.5 | 5 |
| '98 ATL | 66 | 1,181 | 17.9 | 6 |

## WANE McGARITY — $0
Cowboys | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 25 | 250 | 10.0 | 0 |
| '99 DAL (R) | 7 | 70 | 10.0 | 0 |

## KEITH POOLE — $0
Saints | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 21 | 293 | 14.0 | 1 |
| '99 NO | 42 | 796 | 19.0 | 6 |
| '98 NO | 24 | 509 | 21.2 | 2 |

## KEN-YON RAMBO — $0
Raiders | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Ohio State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OSU | 53 | 794 | 15.0 | 2 |

## ANDRE REED — $0
Free agent | Age: 37 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 10 | 103 | 10.3 | 1 |
| '99 BUF | 52 | 536 | 10.3 | 1 |
| '98 BUF | 63 | 795 | 12.6 | 5 |

## LESLIE SHEPHERD — $0
Free agent | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 35 | 446 | 12.7 | 4 |
| '99 CLE | 23 | 274 | 11.9 | 0 |
| '98 WAS | 43 | 712 | 16.6 | 8 |

## TONY SIMMONS — $0
Patriots | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 14 | 231 | 16.5 | 1 |
| '99 NE | 19 | 276 | 14.5 | 2 |
| '98 NE (R) | 23 | 474 | 20.6 | 3 |

## TORRANCE SMALL — $0
Free agent | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 40 | 569 | 14.2 | 3 |
| '99 PHI | 49 | 655 | 13.4 | 4 |
| '98 IND | 45 | 681 | 15.1 | 7 |

## STEVE SMITH — $0
Panthers | Age: 21 | Round: FA
Rookie from Utah

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UTAH | 35 | 743 | 21.2 | 4 |

## R. JAY SOWARD — $0
Jaguars | Age: 23 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX (R) | 14 | 154 | 11.0 | 1 |

## BRANDON STOKLEY — $0
Ravens | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 11 | 184 | 16.7 | 2 |
| '99 BAL (R) | 1 | 28 | 28.0 | 1 |

## TAI STREETS — $0
49ers | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 19 | 287 | 15.1 | 0 |
| '99 SF (R) | 2 | 25 | 12.5 | 0 |

## VINNY SUTHERLAND — $0
Falcons | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Purdue

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PUR | 72 | 1,014 | 14.1 | 13 |

## JASON TUCKER — $0
Cowboys | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 13 | 126 | 9.7 | 0 |
| '99 DAL (R) | 23 | 439 | 19.1 | 2 |

## ALVIS WHITTED — $0
Jaguars | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 13 | 137 | 10.5 | 3 |
| '99 JAX | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| '98 JAX (R) | 2 | 61 | 30.5 | 0 |

## CRAIG YEAST — $0
Bengals | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 24 | 301 | 12.5 | 0 |
| '99 CIN (R) | 3 | 20 | 6.7 | 0 |

# TIGHT ENDS

## THE SKINNY

**MOST OVERRATED**

**RICKEY DUDLEY**
Can his stats really improve in Cleveland?

**FRANK WYCHECK**
At least third option in methodical offense.

**MOST UNDERRATED**

**FREDDIE JONES**
Doesn't get lots of buzz outside San Diego.

**CHAD LEWIS**
Led all Philadelphia receivers in yardage.

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYERS**

**ANTHONY BECHT**
Still learning, but raw skills are special.

**BUBBA FRANKS**
Brett Favre rarely overlooks an open TE.

**BREAKTHROUGH ROOKIES**

**ALGE CRUMPLER**
Second-rounder can fend off coverage.

**TODD HEAP**
Will play with Sharpe in two-TE sets.

**MOST INJURY-PRONE**

**CAMERON CLEELAND**
Missed all last year, but was re-signed.

**ERNIE CONWELL**
Now a starter, Rams need him healthy.

**COMEBACK PLAYERS**

**PETE MITCHELL**
Fine pass-catcher has new shot in Motown.

**WESLEY WALLS**
Numbers suffered while he was injured.

If your league requires that you select a tight end, Kansas City's Tony Gonzalez could be a late first-round pick. His typical numbers are better than a lot of wide receivers'. Maybe it's because he played for a 1-15 San Diego team last year, but for whatever reason Freddie Jones hasn't been getting much fantasy attention. He could catch 75 passes for 800 yards, excellent stats for a tight end. Chad Lewis came on strong in Philadelphia last season as Donovan McNabb's go-to guy. Will that continue if McNabb tries to extend the passing game? Maybe not. Wesley Walls is back from a knee injury, which will surely help the Panthers' collection of untested quarterbacks. Bubba Franks will be on the receiving end of many Brett Favre passes in Green Bay. Shannon Sharpe is still the quickest TE in the game.

## PLAYER STATS

### TONY GONZALEZ — $27
Chiefs | Age: 25 | Round: 3

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC | 93 | 1,203 | 12.9 | 9 |
| '99 KC | 76 | 849 | 11.2 | 11 |
| '98 KC | 59 | 621 | 10.5 | 2 |

### FREDDIE JONES — $21
Chargers | Age: 26 | Round: 5

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 71 | 766 | 10.8 | 5 |
| '99 SD | 56 | 670 | 12.0 | 2 |
| '98 SD | 57 | 602 | 10.6 | 3 |

### CHAD LEWIS — $19
Eagles | Age: 29 | Round: 6

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 69 | 735 | 10.7 | 3 |
| '99 STL-PHI | 8 | 88 | 11.0 | 3 |
| '98 PHI | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

### WESLEY WALLS — $18
Panthers | Age: 35 | Round: 6

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 31 | 422 | 13.6 | 2 |
| '99 CAR | 63 | 822 | 13.0 | 12 |
| '98 CAR | 49 | 506 | 10.3 | 5 |

### SHANNON SHARPE — $17
Ravens | Age: 33 | Round: 7

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 67 | 810 | 12.1 | 5 |
| '99 DEN | 23 | 224 | 9.7 | 0 |
| '98 DEN | 64 | 768 | 12.0 | 10 |

### FRANK WYCHECK — $15
Titans | Age: 29 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 70 | 636 | 9.1 | 4 |
| '99 TEN | 69 | 641 | 9.3 | 2 |
| '98 TEN | 70 | 768 | 11.0 | 2 |

### KYLE BRADY — $14
Jaguars | Age: 29 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 64 | 729 | 11.4 | 3 |
| '99 JAX | 32 | 346 | 10.8 | 1 |
| '98 NYJ | 30 | 315 | 10.5 | 5 |

### BUBBA FRANKS — $14
Packers | Age: 23 | Round: 8

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB (R) | 34 | 363 | 10.7 | 1 |

### STEPHEN ALEXANDER — $7
Redskins | Age: 25 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 WAS | 47 | 510 | 10.9 | 2 |
| '99 WAS | 29 | 324 | 11.2 | 3 |
| '98 WAS (R) | 37 | 383 | 10.4 | 4 |

### KEN DILGER — $7
Colts | Age: 30 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 47 | 538 | 11.4 | 3 |
| '99 IND | 40 | 479 | 12.0 | 2 |
| '98 IND | 31 | 303 | 9.8 | 1 |

### RICKEY DUDLEY — $6
Browns | Age: 29 | Round: 12

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 29 | 350 | 12.1 | 4 |
| '99 OAK | 39 | 555 | 14.2 | 9 |
| '98 OAK | 36 | 549 | 15.3 | 5 |

### PETE MITCHELL — $4
Lions | Age: 29 | Round: 13

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 25 | 245 | 9.8 | 1 |
| '99 NYG | 58 | 520 | 9.0 | 3 |
| '98 JAX | 38 | 363 | 9.6 | 2 |

### JAY RIEMERSMA — $3
Bills | Age: 28 | Round: 14

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 31 | 372 | 12.0 | 5 |
| '99 BUF | 37 | 496 | 13.4 | 4 |
| '98 BUF | 25 | 288 | 11.5 | 6 |

### DAVID SLOAN — $3
Lions | Age: 29 | Round: 14

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 32 | 379 | 11.8 | 2 |
| '99 DET | 47 | 591 | 12.6 | 4 |
| '98 DET | 11 | 146 | 13.3 | 1 |

### DWAYNE CARSWELL — $2
Broncos | Age: 29 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 49 | 495 | 10.1 | 3 |
| '99 DEN | 24 | 201 | 8.4 | 2 |
| '98 DEN | 4 | 51 | 12.8 | 0 |

### TODD HEAP — $2
Ravens | Age: 21 | Round: 15
Rookie from Arizona State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ASU | 48 | 644 | 13.4 | 3 |

### ANTHONY BECHT — $1
Jets | Age: 24 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ (R) | 16 | 144 | 9.0 | 2 |

### BYRON CHAMBERLAIN — $1
Vikings | Age: 29 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 22 | 283 | 12.9 | 1 |
| '99 DEN | 32 | 488 | 15.3 | 2 |
| '98 DEN | 3 | 35 | 11.7 | 0 |

### ALGE CRUMPLER — $1
Falcons | Age: 23 | Round: 16
Rookie from North Carolina

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 UNC | 23 | 287 | 12.5 | 1 |

### REGGIE KELLY — $1
Falcons | Age: 24 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 31 | 340 | 11.0 | 2 |
| '99 ATL (R) | 8 | 146 | 18.3 | 0 |

### ERRON KINNEY — $1
Titans | Age: 24 | Round: 16

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN (R) | 19 | 197 | 10.4 | 1 |

### BRANDON MANUMALEUNA — $1
Rams | Age: 21 | Round: 16
Rookie from Arizona

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 U-ARI | 13 | 161 | 12.4 | 1 |

### MARCUS POLLARD — $1
Colts | Age: 29 | Round: 15

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 30 | 439 | 14.6 | 3 |
| '99 IND | 34 | 374 | 11.0 | 4 |
| '98 IND | 24 | 309 | 12.9 | 4 |

### MARCO BATTAGLIA — $0
Bengals | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 13 | 105 | 8.1 | 0 |
| '99 CIN | 14 | 153 | 10.9 | 0 |
| '98 CIN | 10 | 47 | 4.7 | 1 |

### FRED BAXTER — $0
Bears | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 4 | 22 | 5.5 | 2 |
| '99 NYJ | 8 | 66 | 8.3 | 2 |
| '98 NYJ | 3 | 50 | 16.7 | 0 |

### SEAN BREWER — $0
Bengals | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from San Jose State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SJST | 29 | 372 | 12.8 | 1 |

### JEREMY BRIGHAM — $0
Raiders | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK | 13 | 107 | 8.2 | 2 |
| '99 OAK | 8 | 108 | 13.5 | 0 |
| '98 OAK (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

### LUTHER BROUGHTON — $0
Panthers | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 12 | 104 | 8.7 | 0 |
| '99 PHI | 26 | 295 | 11.3 | 4 |
| '98 CAR (R) | 6 | 142 | 23.7 | 1 |

### MARK BRUENER — $0
Steelers | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 17 | 192 | 11.3 | 3 |
| '99 PIT | 18 | 176 | 9.8 | 0 |
| '98 PIT | 19 | 157 | 8.3 | 2 |

### MARK CHMURA — $0
Free agent | Age: 32 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | DNP IN NFL | | | |
| '99 GB | 5 | 55 | 11.0 | 0 |
| '98 GB | 47 | 554 | 11.8 | 4 |

### DESMOND CLARK — $0
Broncos | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 27 | 339 | 12.6 | 3 |
| '99 DEN (R) | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |

### GREG CLARK — $0
49ers | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 38 | 342 | 9.0 | 2 |
| '99 SF | 34 | 347 | 10.2 | 0 |
| '98 SF | 12 | 124 | 10.3 | 1 |

### CAMERON CLEELAND — $0
Saints | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | DNP-INJURED | | | |
| '99 NO | 26 | 325 | 12.5 | 1 |
| '98 NO (R) | 54 | 684 | 12.7 | 6 |

### BEN COATES — $0
Free agent | Age: 32 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 9 | 84 | 9.3 | 0 |
| '99 NE | 32 | 370 | 11.6 | 2 |
| '98 NE | 67 | 668 | 10.0 | 6 |

### TYRONE DAVIS — $0
Packers | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 19 | 177 | 9.3 | 2 |
| '99 GB | 20 | 204 | 10.2 | 2 |
| '98 GB | 18 | 250 | 13.9 | 7 |

### CHRISTIAN FAURIA — $0
Seahawks | Age: 29 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 28 | 237 | 8.5 | 2 |
| '99 SEA | 35 | 376 | 10.7 | 0 |
| '98 SEA | 37 | 377 | 10.2 | 2 |

### CHRIS GEDNEY — $0
Free agent | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 10 | 75 | 7.5 | 0 |
| '99 ARI | 22 | 271 | 12.3 | 1 |
| '98 ARI | 23 | 261 | 11.3 | 4 |

### ANDREW GLOVER — $0
Free agent | Age: 34 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 21 | 281 | 13.4 | 4 |
| '99 MIN | 28 | 327 | 11.7 | 1 |
| '98 MIN | 35 | 522 | 14.9 | 5 |

### TERRY HARDY — $0
Cardinals | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 27 | 160 | 5.9 | 1 |
| '99 ARI | 30 | 222 | 7.4 | 0 |
| '98 ARI (R) | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

### JACKIE HARRIS — $0
Cowboys | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 39 | 306 | 7.8 | 5 |
| '99 TEN | 26 | 297 | 11.4 | 1 |
| '98 TEN | 43 | 412 | 9.6 | 2 |

### JABARI HOLLOWAY — $0
Patriots | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Notre Dame

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ND | 6 | 97 | 16.2 | 0 |

### BRIAN KOZLOWSKI — $0
Falcons | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 15 | 151 | 10.1 | 2 |
| '99 ATL | 11 | 122 | 11.1 | 2 |
| '98 ATL | 10 | 103 | 10.3 | 1 |

### DAVID LAFLEUR — $0
Cowboys | Age: 27 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL | 12 | 109 | 9.1 | 1 |
| '99 DAL | 35 | 322 | 9.2 | 7 |
| '98 DAL | 20 | 176 | 8.8 | 2 |

### ARTHER LOVE — $0
Patriots | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from South Carolina State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SCST | 20 | 342 | 17.1 | 2 |

### KRIS MANGUM — $0
Panthers | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 19 | 215 | 11.3 | 1 |
| '99 CAR | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |
| '98 CAR | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |

### TONY McGEE — $0
Bengals | Age: 30 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN | 26 | 309 | 11.9 | 1 |
| '99 CIN | 26 | 344 | 13.2 | 2 |
| '98 CIN | 22 | 363 | 16.5 | 1 |

### JOHNNY McWILLIAMS — $0
Free agent | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 22 | 180 | 8.2 | 3 |
| '99 ARI | 11 | 71 | 6.5 | 1 |
| '98 ARI | 26 | 284 | 10.9 | 4 |

### SHAD MEIER — $0
Titans | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Kansas State

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KSU | 9 | 103 | 11.4 | 1 |

### ITULA MILI — $0
Seahawks | Age: 28 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA | 28 | 288 | 10.3 | 3 |
| '99 SEA | 5 | 28 | 5.6 | 1 |
| '98 SEA (R) | 1 | 20 | 20.0 | 0 |

### DAVE MOORE — $0
Buccaneers | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 29 | 288 | 9.9 | 3 |
| '99 TB | 23 | 276 | 12.0 | 5 |
| '98 TB | 24 | 255 | 10.6 | 4 |

### AARON SHEA — $0
Browns | Age: 24 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE (R) | 30 | 302 | 10.1 | 2 |

### ROLAND WILLIAMS — $0
Raiders | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 11 | 102 | 9.3 | 3 |
| '99 STL | 25 | 226 | 9.0 | 6 |
| '98 STL (R) | 15 | 144 | 9.6 | 1 |

# KICKERS

## THE SKINNY

**MOST OVERRATED**

**JASON ELAM**
63-yarder in '98 still inflates his price.

**SEBASTIAN JANIKOWSKI**
Booming leg, but hasn't shown accuracy.

**MOST UNDERRATED**

**DAVID AKERS**
Seven games of 10-plus points last year.

**RIAN LINDELL**
So good he nudged out Todd Peterson.

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYERS**

**PAUL EDINGER**
Unorthodox form, but hits from way out.

**JEFF HALL**
Hits fantasy jackpot if Saints start him.

**BREAKTHROUGH ROOKIES**

**BILL GRAMATICA**
Strong enough leg to supplant Blanchard.

**JOHN MARKHAM**
Giants had him rated very high.

**MOST INJURY-PRONE**

**MIKE HOLLIS**
He has undergone two knee surgeries.

**JOHN KASAY**
Back woes might be sign of trouble.

**COMEBACK PLAYERS**

**JOHN HALL**
Scored career-low 93 points last year.

**JASON HANSON**
He'll rarely miss from 50 and out.

Ryan Longwell doesn't seem fazed by the brutally cold weather in Green Bay. He scored 131 points last season—great numbers even in the best conditions—then was re-signed. One overlooked hero on the Super Bowl champion Ravens was Matt Stover, who led all NFL kickers in scoring. Tampa Bay's Martin Gramatica has a powerful leg, as evidenced by his five field goals of 50 yards or more last year. His brother Bill, looking to catch on in Arizona, also can deliver from deep. Jeff Wilkins will score 120 points in the Rams' offense if he can stay off IR. Philadelphia's David Akers could be a nice steal in your draft, especially since the Eagles have replaced their horrible artificial turf for a synthetic version. Dome kickers Gary Anderson, Jason Hanson and Mike Vanderjagt are always safe bets. If he's consistently accurate, Oakland's Sebastian Janikowski can hang with league leaders.

## PLAYER STATS

### RYAN LONGWELL — $15
Packers | Age: 27 | Round: 8

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 GB | 33-38 | 17-18 | 13-15 | 3-5 | 32-32 | 131 |
| '99 GB | 25-30 | 16-18 | 8-10 | 1-2 | 38-38 | 113 |
| '98 GB | 29-33 | 20-22 | 9-10 | 0-1 | 41-43 | 128 |

### MATT STOVER — $15
Ravens | Age: 33 | Round: 8

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BAL | 35-39 | 23-24 | 10-12 | 2-3 | 30-30 | 135 |
| '99 BAL | 28-33 | 19-21 | 7-7 | 2-5 | 32-32 | 116 |
| '98 BAL | 21-28 | 11-11 | 10-17 | 0-0 | 24-24 | 87 |

## MARTIN GRAMATICA — $14

Buccaneers | Age: 25 | Round: 8

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TB | 28-34 | 16-18 | 7-9 | 5-7 | 42-42 | 126 |
| '99 TB (R) | 27-32 | 18-20 | 6-8 | 3-4 | 25-25 | 106 |

## JEFF WILKINS — $14

Rams | Age: 29 | Round: 8

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL | 17-17 | 13-13 | 3-3 | 1-1 | 38-38 | 89 |
| '99 STL | 20-28 | 12-13 | 7-11 | 1-4 | 64-64 | 124 |
| '98 STL | 20-26 | 12-13 | 5-7 | 3-6 | 25-26 | 85 |

## DAVID AKERS — $13

Eagles | Age: 26 | Round: 9

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PHI | 29-33 | 21-22 | 7-10 | 1-1 | 34-36 | 121 |
| '99 PHI | 3-5 | 0-0 | 2-2 | 1-3 | 2-2 | 11 |
| '98 WAS (R) | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 2-2 | 2 |

## MIKE VANDERJAGT — $13

Colts | Age: 31 | Round: 9

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 IND | 25-27 | 20-20 | 5-6 | 0-1 | 46-46 | 121 |
| '99 IND | 34-38 | 23-25 | 10-11 | 1-2 | 43-43 | 145 |
| '98 IND (R) | 27-31 | 13-13 | 8-9 | 6-9 | 23-23 | 104 |

## GARY ANDERSON — $12

Vikings | Age: 42 | Round: 9

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIN | 22-23 | 15-15 | 7-7 | 0-1 | 45-45 | 111 |
| '99 MIN | 19-30 | 15-19 | 4-9 | 0-2 | 46-46 | 103 |
| '98 MIN | 35-35 | 21-21 | 12-12 | 2-2 | 59-59 | 164 |

## SEBASTIAN JANIKOWSKI — $12

Raiders | Age: 23 | Round: 9

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 OAK (R) | 22-32 | 13-14 | 8-14 | 1-4 | 46-46 | 112 |

## MIKE HOLLIS — $11

Jaguars | Age: 29 | Round: 10

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 JAX | 24-26 | 14-15 | 7-8 | 3-3 | 33-33 | 105 |
| '99 JAX | 31-38 | 20-22 | 10-15 | 1-1 | 37-37 | 130 |
| '98 JAX | 21-26 | 17-20 | 4-5 | 0-1 | 45-45 | 108 |

## RIAN LINDELL — $11

Seahawks | Age: 24 | Round: 10

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SEA (R) | 15-17 | 5-6 | 7-8 | 3-3 | 25-25 | 70 |

## OLINDO MARE — $11

Dolphins | Age 28 | Round: 10

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 MIA | 28-31 | 16-18 | 12-13 | 0-0 | 33-34 | 117 |
| '99 MIA | 39-46 | 27-27 | 9-14 | 3-5 | 27-27 | 144 |
| '98 MIA | 22-27 | 17-18 | 5-7 | 0-2 | 33-34 | 99 |

## JOE NEDNEY — $11

Titans | Age: 28 | Round: 10

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN-CAR | 34-38 | 24-25 | 8-10 | 2-3 | 24-24 | 126 |
| '99 OAK | 5-7 | 4-4 | 0-1 | 1-2 | 13-13 | 28 |
| '98 ARI | 13-19 | 7-7 | 5-8 | 1-4 | 30-30 | 69 |

## JASON ELAM — $9

Broncos | Age: 31 | Round: 11

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DEN | 18-24 | 13-14 | 4-9 | 1-1 | 49-49 | 103 |
| '99 DEN | 29-36 | 16-17 | 8-11 | 5-8 | 29-29 | 116 |
| '98 DEN | 23-27 | 16-17 | 4-6 | 3-4 | 58-58 | 127 |

## JASON HANSON — $9

Lions | Age: 31 | Round: 11

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DET | 24-30 | 18-21 | 4-7 | 2-2 | 29-29 | 101 |
| '99 DET | 26-32 | 12-12 | 10-12 | 4-8 | 28-29 | 106 |
| '98 DET | 29-33 | 15-15 | 13-15 | 1-3 | 27-29 | 114 |

## ADAM VINATIERI — $7

Patriots | Age: 28 | Round: 12

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NE | 27-33 | 19-22 | 7-8 | 1-3 | 25-25 | 106 |
| '99 NE | 26-33 | 20-22 | 5-9 | 1-2 | 29-30 | 107 |
| '98 NE | 31-39 | 20-25 | 9-12 | 2-2 | 32-32 | 125 |

## TIM SEDER — $6

Cowboys | Age: 26 | Round: 12

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 DAL (R) | 25-33 | 16-19 | 9-13 | 0-1 | 27-27 | 102 |

## JOHN KASAY — $5

Panthers | Age: 31 | Round: 13

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | DNP-INJURED | | | | | |
| '99 CAR | 22-25 | 15-15 | 5-6 | 2-4 | 33-33 | 99 |
| '98 CAR | 19-26 | 9-10 | 6-9 | 4-7 | 35-37 | 92 |

## MORTEN ANDERSEN — $4

Free agent | Age: 41 | Round: 13

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ATL | 25-31 | 12-13 | 11-15 | 2-3 | 23-23 | 98 |
| '99 ATL | 15-21 | 11-14 | 4-6 | 0-1 | 34-34 | 79 |
| '98 ATL | 23-28 | 15-16 | 6-9 | 2-2 | 51-52 | 120 |

## KRIS BROWN — $3

Steelers | Age: 24 | Round: 13

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 PIT | 25-30 | 18-19 | 6-9 | 1-2 | 32-33 | 107 |
| '99 PIT (R) | 25-29 | 16-17 | 8-11 | 1-1 | 30-31 | 105 |

## STEVE CHRISTIE — $3

Bills | Age: 33 | Round: 13

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 BUF | 26-35 | 17-19 | 9-13 | 0-1 | 31-31 | 109 |
| '99 BUF | 25-34 | 19-22 | 3-9 | 3-3 | 33-33 | 108 |
| '98 BUF | 33-41 | 23-27 | 9-11 | 1-3 | 41-41 | 140 |

## JEFF HALL — $3

Saints | Age: 25 | Round: 14

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 STL (R) | 4-5 | 2-2 | 1-2 | 1-1 | 9-9 | 21 |

## JOHN HALL — $3

Jets | Age: 27 | Round: 13

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ | 21-32 | 14-17 | 6-12 | 1-3 | 30-30 | 93 |
| '99 NYJ | 27-33 | 20-21 | 7-12 | 0-0 | 27-29 | 108 |
| '98 NYJ | 25-35 | 18-22 | 6-10 | 1-3 | 45-46 | 120 |

## JOHN CARNEY — $2

Free agent | Age: 37 | Round: 15

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SD | 18-25 | 9-11 | 7-10 | 2-4 | 27-27 | 81 |
| '99 SD | 31-36 | 21-23 | 9-12 | 1-1 | 22-23 | 115 |
| '98 SD | 26-30 | 16-17 | 8-10 | 2-3 | 19-19 | 97 |

## AL DEL GRECO — $2

Free agent | Age: 39 | Round: 14

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 TEN | 27-33 | 20-23 | 6-9 | 1-1 | 37-38 | 118 |
| '99 TEN | 21-25 | 16-18 | 4-6 | 1-1 | 43-43 | 106 |
| '98 TEN | 36-39 | 24-24 | 12-15 | 0-0 | 28-28 | 136 |

## PAUL EDINGER — $2

Bears | Age: 23 | Round: 15

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CHI (R) | 21-27 | 13-15 | 6-10 | 2-2 | 21-21 | 84 |

## WADE RICHEY — $2

Chargers | Age: 25 | Round: 15

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 SF | 15-22 | 12-15 | 3-6 | 0-1 | 43-45 | 88 |
| '99 SF | 21-23 | 15-16 | 5-6 | 1-1 | 30-31 | 93 |
| '98 SF (R) | 18-27 | 12-14 | 6-13 | 0-0 | 49-51 | 103 |

## DOUG BRIEN — $1

Free agent | Age: 30 | Round: 16

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NO | 23-29 | 11-12 | 12-15 | 0-2 | 37-37 | 106 |
| '99 NO | 24-29 | 15-18 | 7-9 | 2-2 | 20-21 | 92 |
| '98 NO | 20-22 | 10-10 | 6-6 | 4-6 | 31-31 | 91 |

## TODD PETERSON — $1

Chiefs | Age: 31 | Round: 16

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KC-SEA | 15-20 | 13-15 | 2-5 | 0-0 | 25-25 | 70 |
| '99 SEA | 34-40 | 19-22 | 14-16 | 1-2 | 32-32 | 134 |
| '98 SEA | 19-24 | 11-12 | 5-5 | 3-7 | 41-41 | 98 |

## CARY BLANCHARD — $0

Cardinals | Age: 32 | Round: FA

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 ARI | 16-23 | 12-14 | 2-5 | 2-4 | 18-19 | 66 |
| '99 NYG | 18-21 | 9-11 | 9-10 | 0-0 | 19-19 | 73 |
| '98 WAS | 11-17 | 8-10 | 2-5 | 1-2 | 30-31 | 63 |

## BRETT CONWAY — $0

Redskins | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYJ-OAK-WAS | 6-6 | 5-5 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 8-8 | 26 |
| '99 WAS | 22-32 | 13-16 | 6-7 | 3-9 | 49-50 | 115 |
| '98 WAS (R) | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 |

## RICHIE CUNNINGHAM — $0

Bengals | Age: 31 | Round: FA

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CAR | 5-7 | 5-7 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 9-9 | 24 |
| '99 DAL-CAR | 15-25 | 11-14 | 4-10 | 0-1 | 44-45 | 89 |
| '98 DAL | 29-35 | 18-21 | 10-11 | 1-3 | 40-40 | 127 |

## BRAD DALUISO — $0

Free agent | Age: 33 | Round: FA

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 17-23 | 13-16 | 4-7 | 0-0 | 34-34 | 85 |
| '99 NYG | 7-9 | 7-7 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 9-9 | 30 |
| '98 NYG | 21-27 | 13-15 | 7-11 | 1-1 | 32-32 | 95 |

## PHIL DAWSON — $0

Browns | Age: 26 | Round: FA

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CLE | 14-17 | 12-12 | 2-5 | 0-0 | 17-17 | 59 |
| '99 CLE (R) | 8-12 | 5-7 | 3-5 | 0-0 | 23-24 | 47 |

## BILL GRAMATICA — $0

Cardinals | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from South Florida

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 USF | 16-24 | 9-10 | 5-9 | 2-5 | 29-30 | 71 |

## JARET HOLMES — $0

Giants | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 NYG | 2-2 | 2-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 3-3 | 9 |
| '99 CHI (R) | 2-2 | 2-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 6 |

## JOHN MARKHAM — $0

Giants | Age: 22 | Round: FA
Rookie from Vanderbilt

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 VAN | 14-18 | 9-9 | 4-6 | 1-3 | 19-21 | 61 |

## NEIL RACKERS — $0

Bengals | Age: 25 | Round: FA

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 CIN (R) | 12-21 | 10-14 | 2-7 | 0-0 | 21-21 | 57 |

## JAMIE RHEEM — $0

49ers | Age: 23 | Round: FA
Rookie from Kansas State

| | FG | 1-39 | 40-49 | 50+ | PAT | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 KSU | 17-20 | 17-18 | 0-1 | 0-1 | 49-50 | 100 |

# DEFENSES

## THE SKINNY

**MOST OVERRATED**

**BRONCOS**
Lett, McGlockton are past their primes.

**RAIDERS**
Big-name secondary is routinely burned.

**MOST UNDERRATED**

**BILLS**
Selfless team players who all contribute.

**TITANS**
Overshadowed by AFC Central rival Ravens.

**BEST RUN DEFENSE**

**GIANTS**
Barrow, Hamilton close running lanes.

**RAVENS**
Jumbo tackles funnel runners to Ray Lewis.

**WORST RUN DEFENSE**

**COLTS**
Line gets pushed around; no reliable LBs.

**COWBOYS**
No new faces in 2000's worst rushing D.

**BEST PASS DEFENSE**

**BUCCANEERS**
Suffocating cover guys and big hitters.

**REDSKINS**
Bailey, Green have things covered.

**WORST PASS DEFENSE**

**49ers**
Experience may not change performance.

**VIKINGS**
Robert Griffith and three liabilities.

Expect to pay more for your D this season after the Giants and Ravens made the Super Bowl. Both teams rode outstanding defenses to the title game, especially Baltimore, which led the NFL in several categories. Tampa Bay lost gritty safety Damien Robinson, but with Warren Sapp and Derrick Brooks chasing QBs, it's hard to go wrong with the Bucs. The Bills and Titans remain undervalued—expect Tennessee to be a sack leader with Kevin Carter and Jevon Kearse at the ends. The Dolphins and Eagles will cost more this season. St. Louis drafted tons of help on D, so the Rams could be a good value after a terrible 2000. New Orleans' line is a sack machine. Don't dismiss the Redskins—even if Deion Sanders is sticking with baseball.

## PLAYER STATS

### BALTIMORE RAVENS $20

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 247.9 | 60.6 | 187.3 | 10.3 | 26 | 23 | 35 | 6 |
| '99 | 263.9 | 76.9 | 186.9 | 17.3 | 10 | 21 | 49 | 26 |
| '98 | 331.1 | 106.6 | 224.5 | 20.9 | 6 | 17 | 39 | 28 |

### TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS $15

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 300.0 | 103.0 | 197.0 | 16.8 | 16 | 25 | 55 | 30 |
| '99 | 267.5 | 87.9 | 179.0 | 14.7 | 9 | 21 | 43 | 14 |
| '98 | 271.5 | 98.9 | 172.6 | 18.4 | 14 | 12 | 37 | 18 |

### TENNESSEE TITANS $14

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 238.3 | 86.9 | 151.4 | 11.9 | 13 | 17 | 55 | 30 |
| '99 | 327.8 | 96.9 | 230.9 | 20.3 | 24 | 16 | 54 | 26 |
| '98 | 320.0 | 100.6 | 219.4 | 20.0 | 7 | 12 | 30 | 24 |

### MIAMI DOLPHINS $12

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 289.8 | 108.5 | 181.3 | 14.1 | 13 | 28 | 48 | 12 |
| '99 | 275.3 | 92.3 | 183.0 | 21.0 | 10 | 18 | 39 | 14 |
| '98 | 277.2 | 94.4 | 182.8 | 16.6 | 7 | 29 | 45 | 24 |

### PHILADELPHIA EAGLES $11

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 301.3 | 114.4 | 186.9 | 15.3 | 12 | 19 | 50 | 12 |
| '99 | 341.4 | 125.1 | 216.3 | 22.3 | 18 | 28 | 34 | 34 |
| '98 | 321.0 | 151.0 | 170.0 | 21.5 | 8 | 9 | 42 | 4 |

### ST. LOUIS RAMS $11

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 343.4 | 106.1 | 237.3 | 29.4 | 6 | 19 | 51 | 6 |
| '99 | 293.6 | 74.3 | 219.3 | 15.1 | 7 | 29 | 57 | 50 |
| '98 | 305.0 | 128.1 | 176.9 | 23.6 | 7 | 16 | 50 | 12 |

### BUFFALO BILLS $10

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 276.6 | 97.4 | 179.2 | 21.9 | 13 | 16 | 42 | 6 |
| '99 | 252.8 | 85.6 | 167.2 | 14.3 | 9 | 12 | 37 | 6 |
| '98 | 293.2 | 93.3 | 199.9 | 20.8 | 13 | 18 | 43 | 14 |

### WASHINGTON REDSKINS $10

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 279.6 | 115.8 | 163.8 | 16.8 | 16 | 17 | 45 | 0 |
| '99 | 356.6 | 123.3 | 233.3 | 23.6 | 13 | 24 | 40 | 24 |
| '98 | 334.7 | 152.3 | 182.4 | 26.3 | 8 | 13 | 33 | 2 |

### NEW ORLEANS SAINTS $10

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 296.4 | 104.5 | 191.9 | 19.1 | 15 | 20 | 66 | 30 |
| '99 | 332.4 | 110.9 | 221.5 | 27.1 | 15 | 19 | 45 | 12 |
| '98 | 354.3 | 106.3 | 248.0 | 22.4 | 11 | 21 | 48 | 58 |

### NEW YORK GIANTS $9

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 284.1 | 72.3 | 211.9 | 15.4 | 11 | 20 | 44 | 0 |
| '99 | 311.3 | 97.5 | 213.8 | 22.4 | 7 | 17 | 32 | 18 |
| '98 | 323.2 | 125.3 | 197.9 | 19.3 | 7 | 19 | 54 | 18 |

### PITTSBURGH STEELERS $8

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 294.6 | 105.8 | 188.8 | 15.9 | 18 | 17 | 39 | 12 |
| '99 | 305.3 | 122.4 | 182.9 | 20.0 | 14 | 14 | 39 | 12 |
| '98 | 310.2 | 102.6 | 207.6 | 18.9 | 13 | 16 | 41 | 30 |

### DENVER BRONCOS $7

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 346.5 | 99.9 | 246.6 | 23.1 | 17 | 27 | 44 | 42 |
| '99 | 297.1 | 108.6 | 188.5 | 19.9 | 11 | 15 | 50 | 16 |
| '98 | 308.4 | 80.4 | 228.0 | 19.3 | 11 | 19 | 47 | 18 |

### JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS $5

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 302.8 | 105.3 | 197.5 | 20.4 | 18 | 12 | 40 | 0 |
| '99 | 270.9 | 90.3 | 180.6 | 13.6 | 11 | 19 | 56 | 30 |
| '98 | 347.4 | 125.0 | 222.4 | 21.1 | 17 | 13 | 30 | 24 |

### OAKLAND RAIDERS $5

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 328.1 | 96.9 | 231.1 | 18.7 | 16 | 21 | 43 | 30 |
| '99 | 305.0 | 97.4 | 207.6 | 20.6 | 13 | 19 | 43 | 18 |
| '98 | 284.4 | 104.6 | 179.8 | 22.3 | 14 | 21 | 41 | 42 |

### NEW YORK JETS $4

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 310.3 | 118.0 | 183.3 | 20.1 | 14 | 21 | 40 | 6 |
| '99 | 336.2 | 106.4 | 229.8 | 19.3 | 11 | 24 | 26 | 26 |
| '98 | 293.7 | 103.7 | 190.0 | 16.6 | 9 | 21 | 36 | 26 |

### KANSAS CITY CHIEFS $3

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 330.8 | 113.9 | 216.9 | 22.1 | 14 | 15 | 51 | 12 |
| '99 | 314.9 | 97.3 | 217.6 | 20.1 | 20 | 25 | 39 | 48 |
| '98 | 303.4 | 116.8 | 186.6 | 22.7 | 20 | 13 | 40 | 8 |

### SAN DIEGO CHARGERS $3

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 309.9 | 88.9 | 221.1 | 27.5 | 6 | 16 | 39 | 24 |
| '99 | 306.6 | 82.6 | 224.0 | 19.8 | 12 | 14 | 40 | 20 |
| '98 | 263.1 | 71.3 | 191.8 | 21.4 | 7 | 20 | 39 | 8 |

### CHICAGO BEARS $2

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 327.1 | 114.2 | 212.9 | 22.2 | 9 | 11 | 36 | 24 |
| '99 | 356.5 | 117.6 | 238.9 | 21.3 | 19 | 14 | 37 | 12 |
| '98 | 319.0 | 117.2 | 201.8 | 23.0 | 14 | 14 | 28 | 22 |

### DETROIT LIONS $2

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 314.6 | 113.9 | 200.6 | 19.2 | 17 | 25 | 28 | 12 |
| '99 | 330.7 | 95.7 | 235.0 | 20.2 | 16 | 16 | 49 | 24 |
| '98 | 319.8 | 131.4 | 188.4 | 23.6 | 9 | 12 | 43 | 6 |

### SEATTLE SEAHAWKS $2

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 399.4 | 153.4 | 246.1 | 25.3 | 12 | 17 | 27 | 30 |
| '99 | 339.1 | 120.9 | 218.3 | 18.6 | 6 | 30 | 37 | 18 |
| '98 | 355.5 | 124.9 | 230.6 | 19.4 | 18 | 24 | 53 | 72 |

### CINCINNATI BENGALS $1

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 342.9 | 120.3 | 222.6 | 22.4 | 12 | 9 | 26 | 6 |
| '99 | 343.6 | 106.2 | 237.4 | 28.8 | 15 | 12 | 35 | 6 |
| '98 | 360.2 | 163.3 | 196.9 | 28.3 | 7 | 13 | 28 | 18 |

### DALLAS COWBOYS $1

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 333.1 | 164.8 | 168.3 | 22.6 | 9 | 16 | 25 | 0 |
| '99 | 302.5 | 90.3 | 212.3 | 17.3 | 9 | 24 | 35 | 32 |
| '98 | 322.8 | 101.2 | 221.6 | 17.2 | 12 | 14 | 34 | 26 |

### GREEN BAY PACKERS $1

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 316.8 | 101.1 | 251.7 | 20.2 | 7 | 21 | 38 | 6 |
| '99 | 331.8 | 112.8 | 219.1 | 21.3 | 15 | 26 | 29 | 20 |
| '98 | 281.7 | 90.1 | 191.6 | 19.9 | 10 | 13 | 50 | 26 |

### INDIANAPOLIS COLTS $1

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 334.8 | 120.9 | 213.9 | 20.4 | 8 | 14 | 42 | 18 |
| '99 | 326.3 | 107.2 | 219.1 | 20.8 | 13 | 9 | 40 | 12 |
| '98 | 364.8 | 160.6 | 204.1 | 27.8 | 11 | 8 | 38 | 0 |

### MINNESOTA VIKINGS $1

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 356.3 | 111.8 | 244.6 | 23.2 | 10 | 8 | 31 | 0 |
| '99 | 349.8 | 101.1 | 248.8 | 20.9 | 18 | 11 | 46 | 8 |
| '98 | 316.7 | 100.9 | 215.8 | 18.5 | 15 | 19 | 38 | 32 |

### NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS $1

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 334.6 | 114.4 | 220.1 | 21.1 | 13 | 10 | 29 | 0 |
| '99 | 300.5 | 112.2 | 188.3 | 17.8 | 15 | 16 | 42 | 24 |
| '98 | 323.9 | 96.7 | 227.2 | 20.6 | 7 | 24 | 36 | 18 |

### ARIZONA CARDINALS $0

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 358.6 | 163.1 | 195.5 | 27.7 | 10 | 10 | 25 | 6 |
| '99 | 338.9 | 141.6 | 197.3 | 24.0 | 10 | 17 | 33 | 18 |
| '98 | 329.1 | 124.3 | 204.8 | 23.6 | 19 | 20 | 39 | 10 |

### ATLANTA FALCONS $0

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 350.4 | 123.9 | 226.5 | 25.8 | 10 | 15 | 31 | 6 |
| '99 | 326.4 | 128.9 | 197.6 | 23.8 | 6 | 12 | 39 | 8 |
| '98 | 295.9 | 75.2 | 220.7 | 18.1 | 25 | 19 | 38 | 38 |

### CAROLINA PANTHERS $0

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 353.5 | 121.5 | 232.0 | 19.4 | 21 | 17 | 27 | 12 |
| '99 | 343.9 | 118.6 | 225.3 | 23.8 | 14 | 15 | 34 | 0 |
| '98 | 365.1 | 133.3 | 231.8 | 25.8 | 14 | 19 | 37 | 18 |

### CLEVELAND BROWNS $0

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 352.7 | 156.6 | 196.1 | 26.2 | 13 | 12 | 42 | 6 |
| '99 | 377.9 | 171.0 | 206.9 | 27.3 | 12 | 7 | 23 | 0 |

### SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS $0

| | TYPG | RYPG | PYPG | PAPG | FR | INT | SK | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| '00 | 356.8 | 112.1 | 244.7 | 26.4 | 8 | 13 | 38 | 12 |
| '99 | 355.4 | 101.2 | 254.3 | 28.3 | 7 | 13 | 32 | 32 |
| '98 | 333.9 | 100.3 | 233.3 | 20.5 | 12 | 21 | 51 | 6 |

# 2000 NFC LEADERS

## NFC FINAL STANDINGS

| EAST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | HOME | ROAD | DIV | NFC | AFC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *NY Giants | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 328 | 246 | 5-3 | 7-1 | 7-1 | 9-3 | 3-1 |
| y-Philadelphia | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 351 | 245 | 5-3 | 6-2 | 5-3 | 8-4 | 3-1 |
| Washington | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 281 | 269 | 4-4 | 4-4 | 3-5 | 6-6 | 2-2 |
| Dallas | 5 | 11 | 0 | .312 | 294 | 361 | 3-5 | 2-6 | 3-5 | 4-8 | 1-3 |
| Arizona | 3 | 13 | 0 | .188 | 210 | 443 | 3-5 | 0-8 | 2-6 | 2-10 | 1-3 |

| CENTRAL | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | HOME | ROAD | DIV | NFC | AFC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| z-Minnesota | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 397 | 371 | 7-1 | 4-4 | 5-3 | 8-4 | 3-1 |
| y-Tampa Bay | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 388 | 269 | 6-2 | 4-4 | 4-4 | 7-5 | 3-1 |
| Green Bay | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 353 | 323 | 6-2 | 3-5 | 5-3 | 8-4 | 1-3 |
| Detroit | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 307 | 307 | 4-4 | 5-3 | 3-5 | 7-5 | 2-2 |
| Chicago | 5 | 11 | 0 | .312 | 216 | 355 | 3-5 | 2-6 | 3-5 | 3-9 | 2-2 |

| WEST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | HOME | ROAD | DIV | NFC | AFC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| z-New Orleans | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 354 | 305 | 3-5 | 7-1 | 7-1 | 9-3 | 1-3 |
| y-St. Louis | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 540 | 471 | 5-3 | 5-3 | 5-3 | 7-5 | 3-1 |
| Carolina | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 310 | 310 | 5-3 | 2-6 | 4-4 | 5-7 | 2-2 |
| San Francisco | 6 | 10 | 0 | .375 | 388 | 422 | 4-4 | 2-6 | 1-7 | 4-8 | 2-2 |
| Atlanta | 4 | 12 | 0 | .250 | 252 | 413 | 3-5 | 1-7 | 3-5 | 3-9 | 1-3 |

y-clinched wild card, z-clinched division, *-clinched division and home-field advantage

## RUSHING YARDS

| | ATT | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD | FUM | LST |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Robert Smith, Minnesota | 295 | 1,521 | 5.2 | 72 | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| Marshall Faulk, St. Louis | 253 | 1,359 | 5.4 | 36 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| Stephen Davis, Washington | 332 | 1,318 | 4.0 | 50 | 11 | 4 | 4 |
| Emmitt Smith, Dallas | 294 | 1,203 | 4.1 | 52 | 9 | 6 | 5 |
| James Stewart, Detroit | 339 | 1,184 | 3.5 | 34 | 10 | 4 | 2 |
| Ahman Green, Green Bay | 263 | 1,175 | 4.5 | 39 | 10 | 6 | 4 |
| Charlie Garner, San Francisco | 258 | 1,142 | 4.4 | 42 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Warrick Dunn, Tampa Bay | 248 | 1,133 | 4.6 | 70 | 8 | 1 | 1 |
| James Allen, Chicago | 290 | 1,120 | 3.9 | 29 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| Jamal Anderson, Atlanta | 282 | 1,024 | 3.6 | 42 | 6 | 6 | 4 |
| Tiki Barber, NY Giants | 213 | 1,006 | 4.7 | 78 | 8 | 6 | 3 |
| Ricky Williams, New Orleans | 248 | 1,000 | 4.0 | 26 | 8 | 6 | 3 |
| Ron Dayne, NY Giants | 228 | 770 | 3.4 | 50 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Michael Pittman, Arizona | 184 | 719 | 3.9 | 29 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| Donovan McNabb, Philly | 86 | 629 | 7.3 | 54 | 6 | 7 | 4 |

## SACKS

| | |
|---|---|
| La'Roi Glover, New Orleans | 17 |
| Warren Sapp, Tampa Bay | 16.5 |
| Hugh Douglas, Philadelphia | 15 |
| Marcus Jones, Tampa Bay | 13 |
| Marco Coleman, Washington | 12 |
| Joe Johnson, New Orleans | 12 |
| Darren Howard, New Orleans | 11 |
| Grant Wistrom, St. Louis | 11 |
| Kevin Carter, St. Louis | 10.5 |
| Keith Hamilton, NY Giants | 10 |
| Bruce Smith, Washington | 10 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Darren Sharper, Green Bay | 9 |
| Dexter McCleon, St. Louis | 8 |
| Donnie Abraham, Tampa Bay | 7 |
| Kurt Schulz, Detroit | 7 |
| Ray Buchanan, Atlanta | 6 |
| Emmanuel McDaniel, NY Giants | 6 |
| Damien Robinson, Tampa Bay | 6 |
| Bryant Westbrook, Detroit | 6 |
| Sammy Knight, New Orleans | 5 |
| Aeneas Williams, Arizona | 5 |
| (four others with five) | |

## QUARTERBACK RATING

| | ATT | COMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trent Green, St. Louis | 145 | 240 | 60.4 | 2,063 | 16 | 5 | 101.8 |
| Kurt Warner, St. Louis | 235 | 347 | 67.7 | 3,429 | 21 | 18 | 98.3 |
| Daunte Culpepper, Minnesota | 297 | 474 | 62.7 | 3,937 | 33 | 16 | 98.0 |
| Jeff Garcia, San Francisco | 355 | 561 | 63.3 | 4,278 | 31 | 10 | 97.6 |
| Kerry Collins, NY Giants | 311 | 529 | 58.8 | 3,610 | 22 | 13 | 83.1 |
| Jeff Blake, New Orleans | 184 | 302 | 60.9 | 2,025 | 13 | 9 | 82.7 |
| Steve Beuerlein, Carolina | 324 | 533 | 60.8 | 3,730 | 19 | 18 | 79.7 |
| Brett Favre, Green Bay | 338 | 580 | 58.3 | 3,812 | 20 | 16 | 78.0 |
| Donovan McNabb, Philadelphia | 330 | 569 | 58.0 | 3,365 | 21 | 13 | 77.8 |
| Shaun King, Tampa Bay | 233 | 428 | 54.4 | 2,769 | 18 | 13 | 75.8 |
| Brad Johnson, Washington | 227 | 364 | 62.4 | 2,505 | 11 | 15 | 75.6 |
| Chris Chandler, Atlanta | 192 | 331 | 58.0 | 2,236 | 10 | 12 | 73.5 |
| Cade McNown, Chicago | 154 | 280 | 55.0 | 1,646 | 8 | 9 | 68.5 |
| Charlie Batch, Detroit | 221 | 412 | 53.6 | 2,489 | 13 | 15 | 67.3 |
| Jake Plummer, Arizona | 270 | 475 | 56.8 | 2,946 | 13 | 21 | 66.0 |

## RECEIVING YARDS

| | REC | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Torry Holt, St. Louis | 82 | 1,635 | 19.9 | 85 | 6 |
| Isaac Bruce, St. Louis | 87 | 1,471 | 16.9 | 78 | 9 |
| Terrell Owens, San Francisco | 97 | 1,451 | 15.0 | 69 | 13 |
| Randy Moss, Minnesota | 77 | 1,437 | 18.7 | 78 | 15 |
| Joe Horn, New Orleans | 94 | 1,340 | 14.3 | 52 | 8 |
| Cris Carter, Minnesota | 96 | 1,274 | 13.3 | 53 | 9 |
| Muhsin Muhammad, Carolina | 102 | 1,183 | 11.6 | 36 | 6 |
| David Boston, Arizona | 71 | 1,156 | 16.3 | 70 | 7 |
| Amani Toomer, NY Giants | 78 | 1,094 | 14.0 | 54 | 7 |
| Bill Schroeder, Green Bay | 65 | 999 | 15.4 | 55 | 4 |
| Donald Hayes, Carolina | 66 | 926 | 14.0 | 43 | 3 |
| James McKnight, Dallas | 52 | 926 | 17.8 | 48 | 2 |
| Antonio Freeman, Green Bay | 62 | 912 | 14.7 | 67 | 9 |
| Keyshawn Johnson, Tampa Bay | 71 | 874 | 12.3 | 38 | 8 |
| Marshall Faulk, St. Louis | 81 | 830 | 10.2 | 72 | 8 |

## KICKING

| | XPM | XPA | PCT | FGM | FGA | PCT | LNG | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ryan Longwell, Green Bay | 32 | 32 | 100.0 | 33 | 38 | 86.8 | 52 | 131 |
| Martin Gramatica, Tampa Bay | 42 | 42 | 100.0 | 28 | 34 | 82.4 | 55 | 126 |
| Joe Nedney, Carolina | 24 | 24 | 100.0 | 34 | 38 | 89.5 | 52 | 126 |
| David Akers, Philadelphia | 34 | 36 | 94.4 | 29 | 33 | 87.9 | 51 | 121 |
| Gary Anderson, Minnesota | 45 | 45 | 100.0 | 22 | 23 | 95.7 | 49 | 111 |
| Doug Brien, New Orleans | 37 | 37 | 100.0 | 23 | 29 | 79.3 | 48 | 106 |
| Tim Seder, Dallas | 27 | 27 | 100.0 | 25 | 33 | 75.8 | 48 | 102 |
| Jason Hanson, Detroit | 29 | 29 | 100.0 | 24 | 30 | 80.0 | 54 | 101 |
| Morten Andersen, Atlanta | 23 | 23 | 100.0 | 25 | 31 | 80.6 | 51 | 98 |
| Jeff Wilkins, St. Louis | 38 | 38 | 100.0 | 17 | 17 | 100.0 | 51 | 89 |

## TOUCHDOWNS

| | G | TD | RUSH | REC | RET | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marshall Faulk, St. Louis | 14 | 26 | 18 | 8 | 0 | 156 |
| Randy Moss, Minnesota | 16 | 15 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 90 |
| Ahman Green, Green Bay | 16 | 13 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 78 |
| Terrell Owens, San Francisco | 14 | 13 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 78 |
| Stephen Davis, Washington | 15 | 11 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 66 |
| James Stewart, Detroit | 16 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 66 |
| Charlie Garner, San Francisco | 16 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 60 |
| Robert Smith, Minnesota | 16 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 60 |
| Isaac Bruce, St. Louis | 16 | 9 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 54 |
| Cris Carter, Minnesota | 16 | 9 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 54 |

# 2000 AFC LEADERS

## AFC FINAL STANDINGS

| EAST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | HOME | ROAD | DIV | NFC | AFC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| z-Miami | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 323 | 226 | 5-3 | 6-2 | 5-3 | 2-2 | 9-3 |
| y-Indianapolis | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 429 | 326 | 6-2 | 4-4 | 5-3 | 2-2 | 8-4 |
| NY Jets | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 321 | 321 | 5-3 | 4-4 | 6-2 | 3-1 | 6-6 |
| Buffalo | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 315 | 350 | 5-3 | 3-5 | 2-6 | 2-2 | 6-6 |
| New England | 5 | 11 | 0 | .312 | 276 | 338 | 3-5 | 2-6 | 2-6 | 0-4 | 5-7 |

| CENTRAL | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | HOME | ROAD | DIV | NFC | AFC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Tennessee | 13 | 3 | 0 | .812 | 346 | 191 | 7-1 | 6-2 | 8-2 | 4-0 | 9-3 |
| y-Baltimore | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 333 | 165 | 6-2 | 6-2 | 8-2 | 2-1 | 10-3 |
| Pittsburgh | 9 | 7 | 0 | .562 | 321 | 255 | 4-4 | 5-3 | 5-5 | 1-2 | 8-5 |
| Jacksonville | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 367 | 327 | 4-4 | 3-5 | 5-5 | 2-2 | 5-7 |
| Cincinnati | 4 | 12 | 0 | .250 | 185 | 359 | 3-5 | 1-7 | 2-8 | 1-2 | 3-10 |
| Cleveland | 3 | 13 | 0 | .188 | 161 | 419 | 2-6 | 1-7 | 2-8 | 0-3 | 3-10 |

| WEST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | HOME | ROAD | DIV | NFC | AFC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| z-Oakland | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 479 | 299 | 7-1 | 5-3 | 5-3 | 4-0 | 8-4 |
| y-Denver | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 485 | 369 | 6-2 | 5-3 | 6-2 | 3-1 | 8-4 |
| Kansas City | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 355 | 354 | 5-3 | 2-6 | 5-3 | 2-2 | 5-7 |
| Seattle | 6 | 10 | 0 | .375 | 320 | 405 | 3-5 | 3-5 | 3-5 | 2-2 | 4-8 |
| San Diego | 1 | 15 | 0 | .062 | 269 | 440 | 1-7 | 0-8 | 1-7 | 0-4 | 1-11 |

y-clinched wild card, z-clinched division, *-clinched division and home-field advantage

## RUSHING YARDS

| | ATT | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD | FUM | LST |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Edgerrin James, Indianapolis | 387 | 1,709 | 4.4 | 30 | 13 | 5 | 5 |
| Eddie George, Tennessee | 403 | 1,509 | 3.7 | 35 | 14 | 6 | 4 |
| Mike Anderson, Denver | 297 | 1,500 | 5.1 | 80 | 15 | 4 | 3 |
| Corey Dillon, Cincinnati | 315 | 1,435 | 4.6 | 80 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Fred Taylor, Jacksonville | 292 | 1,399 | 4.8 | 71 | 12 | 4 | 2 |
| Jamal Lewis, Baltimore | 309 | 1,364 | 4.4 | 45 | 6 | 6 | 2 |
| Jerome Bettis, Pittsburgh | 355 | 1,341 | 3.8 | 30 | 8 | 1 | 0 |
| Ricky Watters, Seattle | 278 | 1,242 | 4.5 | 55 | 7 | 5 | 2 |
| Curtis Martin, NY Jets | 316 | 1,204 | 3.8 | 55 | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| Lamar Smith, Miami | 309 | 1,139 | 3.7 | 68 | 14 | 3 | 3 |
| Tyrone Wheatley, Oakland | 232 | 1,046 | 4.5 | 80 | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| Tony Richardson, Kansas City | 147 | 697 | 4.7 | 33 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Shawn Bryson, Buffalo | 161 | 591 | 3.7 | 24 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Priest Holmes, Baltimore | 137 | 588 | 4.3 | 21 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Kevin Faulk, New England | 164 | 570 | 3.5 | 18 | 4 | 6 | 4 |

## SACKS

| | |
|---|---|
| Trace Armstrong, Miami | 16.5 |
| Jason Taylor, Miami | 14.5 |
| Eric Hicks, Kansas City | 14 |
| Jason Gildon, Pittsburgh | 13.5 |
| Trevor Pryce, Denver | 12 |
| Jevon Kearse, Tennessee | 11.5 |
| Rob Burnett, Baltimore | 10.5 |
| Joey Porter, Pittsburgh | 10.5 |
| Marcellus Wiley, Buffalo | 10.5 |
| Mo Lewis, NY Jets | 10 |
| Shaun Ellis, NY Jets | 8.5 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Samari Rolle, Tennessee | 7 |
| Brian Walker, Miami | 7 |
| Eric Allen, Oakland | 6 |
| Terrell Buckley, Denver | 6 |
| Victor Green, NY Jets | 6 |
| Rodney Harrison, San Diego | 6 |
| Duane Starks, Baltimore | 6 |
| William Thomas, Oakland | 6 |
| Sam Madison, Miami | 5 |
| Brock Marion, Miami | 5 |
| (four others with five) | |

## QUARTERBACK RATING

| | ATT | COMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brian Griese, Denver | 216 | 336 | 64.3 | 2,688 | 19 | 4 | 102.9 |
| Peyton Manning, Indianapolis | 357 | 571 | 62.5 | 4,413 | 33 | 15 | 94.7 |
| Rich Gannon, Oakland | 284 | 473 | 60.0 | 3,430 | 28 | 11 | 92.4 |
| Elvis Grbac, Kansas City | 326 | 547 | 59.6 | 4,169 | 28 | 14 | 89.9 |
| Doug Flutie, Buffalo | 132 | 231 | 57.1 | 1,700 | 8 | 3 | 86.5 |
| Mark Brunell, Jacksonville | 311 | 512 | 60.7 | 3,640 | 20 | 14 | 84.0 |
| Steve McNair, Tennessee | 248 | 396 | 62.6 | 2,847 | 15 | 13 | 83.2 |
| Rob Johnson, Buffalo | 175 | 306 | 57.2 | 2,125 | 12 | 7 | 82.2 |
| Gus Frerotte, Denver | 138 | 232 | 59.5 | 1,776 | 9 | 8 | 82.1 |
| Drew Bledsoe, New England | 312 | 531 | 58.8 | 3,291 | 17 | 13 | 77.3 |
| Trent Dilfer, Baltimore | 134 | 226 | 59.3 | 1,502 | 12 | 11 | 76.6 |
| Jon Kitna, Seattle | 259 | 418 | 62.0 | 2,658 | 18 | 19 | 75.6 |
| Jay Fiedler, Miami | 204 | 357 | 57.1 | 2,402 | 14 | 14 | 74.5 |
| Kordell Stewart, Pittsburgh | 151 | 289 | 52.2 | 1,860 | 11 | 8 | 73.6 |
| Tony Banks, Baltimore | 150 | 274 | 54.7 | 1,578 | 8 | 8 | 69.3 |

## RECEIVING YARDS

| | REC | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rod Smith, Denver | 100 | 1,602 | 16.0 | 49 | 8 |
| Marvin Harrison, Indianapolis | 102 | 1,413 | 13.9 | 78 | 14 |
| Derrick Alexander, Kansas City | 78 | 1,391 | 17.8 | 81 | 10 |
| Eric Moulds, Buffalo | 94 | 1,326 | 14.1 | 52 | 5 |
| Ed McCaffrey, Denver | 101 | 1,317 | 13.0 | 61 | 9 |
| Jimmy Smith, Jacksonville | 91 | 1,213 | 13.3 | 65 | 8 |
| Keenan McCardell, Jacksonville | 94 | 1,207 | 12.8 | 67 | 5 |
| Tony Gonzalez, Kansas City | 93 | 1,203 | 12.9 | 39 | 9 |
| Tim Brown, Oakland | 76 | 1,128 | 14.8 | 45 | 11 |
| Terry Glenn, New England | 79 | 963 | 12.2 | 39 | 6 |
| Troy Brown, New England | 83 | 944 | 11.4 | 44 | 4 |
| Wayne Chrebet, NY Jets | 69 | 937 | 13.6 | 50 | 8 |
| Jeff Graham, San Diego | 55 | 907 | 16.5 | 83 | 4 |
| Derrick Mason, Tennessee | 63 | 895 | 14.2 | 34 | 5 |
| Richie Anderson, NY Jets | 88 | 853 | 9.7 | 41 | 2 |

## KICKING

| | XPM | XPA | PCT | FGM | FGA | PCT | LNG | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Matt Stover, Baltimore | 30 | 30 | 100.0 | 35 | 39 | 89.7 | 51 | 135 |
| Mike Vanderjagt, Indianapolis | 46 | 46 | 100.0 | 25 | 27 | 92.6 | 48 | 121 |
| Al Del Greco, Tennessee | 37 | 38 | 97.4 | 27 | 33 | 81.8 | 50 | 118 |
| Olindo Mare, Miami | 33 | 34 | 97.1 | 28 | 31 | 90.3 | 49 | 117 |
| Sebastian Janikowski, Oakland | 46 | 46 | 100.0 | 22 | 32 | 68.8 | 54 | 112 |
| Steve Christie, Buffalo | 31 | 31 | 100.0 | 26 | 35 | 74.3 | 48 | 109 |
| Kris Brown, Pittsburgh | 32 | 33 | 97.0 | 25 | 30 | 83.3 | 52 | 107 |
| Adam Vinatieri, New England | 25 | 25 | 100.0 | 27 | 33 | 81.8 | 53 | 106 |
| Mike Hollis, Jacksonville | 33 | 33 | 100.0 | 24 | 26 | 92.3 | 51 | 105 |
| Jason Elam, Denver | 49 | 49 | 100.0 | 18 | 24 | 75.0 | 51 | 103 |

## TOUCHDOWNS

| | G | TD | RUSH | REC | RET | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Edgerrin James, Indianapolis | 16 | 18 | 13 | 5 | 0 | 108 |
| Eddie George, Tennessee | 16 | 16 | 14 | 2 | 0 | 96 |
| Lamar Smith, Miami | 15 | 16 | 14 | 2 | 0 | 96 |
| Mike Anderson, Denver | 16 | 15 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| Marvin Harrison, Indianapolis | 16 | 14 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 84 |
| Fred Taylor, Jacksonville | 13 | 14 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 84 |
| Tim Brown, Oakland | 16 | 11 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 66 |
| Curtis Martin, NY Jets | 16 | 11 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 66 |
| Derrick Alexander, Kansas City | 16 | 10 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 60 |
| Tyrone Wheatley, Oakland | 14 | 10 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 60 |

# 2000 TEAM-BY-TEAM STATISTICS

## ATLANTA FALONS

### PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chris Chandler | 14 | 331 | 192 | 58.0 | 2236 | 10 | 12 | 73.5 |
| Danny Kanell | 5 | 116 | 57 | 49.1 | 524 | 2 | 5 | 49.6 |
| Doug Johnson | 4 | 67 | 36 | 53.7 | 406 | 2 | 3 | 63.4 |

### RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jamal Anderson | 16 | 282 | 1024 | 3.6 | 6 |
| Maurice Smith | 5 | 19 | 69 | 3.6 | 0 |
| Chris Chandler | 14 | 21 | 60 | 2.9 | 0 |
| Ron Rivers | 2 | 8 | 27 | 3.4 | 0 |
| Bob Christian | 16 | 9 | 19 | 2.1 | 0 |
| Doug Johnson | 4 | 3 | 11 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Tim Dwight | 13 | 5 | 8 | 1.6 | 0 |
| Shawn Jefferson | 15 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Danny Kanell | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Terance Mathis | 16 | 1 | -5 | -5.0 | 0 |

### RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shawn Jefferson | 15 | 60 | 822 | 13.7 | 2 |
| Terance Mathis | 16 | 57 | 679 | 11.9 | 5 |
| Bob Christian | 16 | 44 | 315 | 7.2 | 0 |
| Jamal Anderson | 16 | 42 | 382 | 9.1 | 0 |
| Reggie Kelly | 15 | 31 | 340 | 11.0 | 2 |
| Tim Dwight | 13 | 26 | 406 | 15.6 | 3 |
| Brian Kozlowski | 13 | 15 | 151 | 10.1 | 2 |
| Brian Finneran | 6 | 7 | 60 | 8.6 | 0 |
| Jammi German | 4 | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 0 |
| Chris Chandler | 14 | 1 | -4 | -4.0 | 0 |
| Maurice Smith | 5 | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |

### PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tim Dwight | 33 | 309 | 9.4 | 70 | 1 |
| Winslow Oliver | 4 | 39 | 9.7 | 40 | 0 |

### KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Darrick Vaughn | 39 | 1082 | 27.7 | 100 | 3 |
| Tim Dwight | 32 | 680 | 21.2 | 48 | 0 |
| Brian Kozlowski | 7 | 77 | 11.0 | 21 | 0 |
| Winslow Oliver | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 11 | 0 |
| Elijah Williams | 2 | 34 | 17.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Brian Finneran | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |

### INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ray Buchanan | 6 | 114 | 60 |
| Ashley Ambrose | 4 | 139 | 42 |
| Ronnie Bradford | 3 | 25 | 13 |
| Patrick Kerney | 1 | 8 | 8 |
| Elijah Williams | 1 | 1 | 1 |

### SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Travis Hall | 4.5 | 27.5 |
| Brady Smith | 4.5 | 19.0 |
| Chuck Wiley | 4.0 | 10.0 |
| Edward Jasper | 3.5 | 12.0 |
| Patrick Kerney | 2.5 | 12.0 |
| Henri Crockett | 2.0 | 12.0 |
| Marty Carter | 2.0 | 14.0 |
| Gerald McBurrows | 2.0 | 10.0 |
| Shawn Swayda | 1.5 | 5.5 |
| Shane Dronett | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Chris Draft | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Keith Brooking | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Mark Simoneau | 0.5 | 0.0 |

### KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Morten Andersen | 25 | 31 | 80.6 | 51 | 23/23 | 100.0 | 98 |

## ARIZONA CARDINALS

### PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jake Plummer | 14 | 475 | 270 | 56.8 | 2946 | 13 | 21 | 66.0 |
| Dave Brown | 4 | 69 | 40 | 58.0 | 467 | 2 | 3 | 70.1 |
| Chris Greisen | 2 | 10 | 6 | 60.0 | 65 | 1 | 0 | 112.5 |

### RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Michael Pittman | 16 | 184 | 719 | 3.9 | 4 |
| Thomas Jones | 14 | 112 | 373 | 3.3 | 2 |
| Jake Plummer | 14 | 37 | 183 | 4.9 | 0 |
| David Boston | 16 | 3 | 9 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Joel Makovicka | 7 | 3 | 8 | 2.7 | 0 |
| Chris Greisen | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Dave Brown | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| MarTay Jenkins | 16 | 1 | -4 | -4.0 | 0 |
| Scott Player | 1 | 1 | -11 | -11.0 | 0 |

### RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Michael Pittman | 16 | 73 | 579 | 7.9 | 2 |
| David Boston | 16 | 71 | 1156 | 16.3 | 7 |
| Frank Sanders | 16 | 54 | 749 | 13.9 | 6 |
| Thomas Jones | 14 | 32 | 208 | 6.5 | 0 |
| Terry Hardy | 16 | 27 | 160 | 5.9 | 1 |
| Mac Cody | 10 | 17 | 212 | 12.5 | 0 |
| MarTay Jenkins | 16 | 17 | 219 | 12.9 | 0 |
| Chris Gedney | 9 | 10 | 75 | 7.5 | 0 |
| Joel Makovicka | 7 | 6 | 18 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Tywan Mitchell | 6 | 5 | 80 | 16.0 | 0 |
| Dennis McKinley | 2 | 2 | 13 | 6.5 | 0 |
| Clarence Williams | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |
| Jay Tant | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 0 |

### PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mac Cody | 31 | 222 | 7.2 | 25 | 0 |
| MarTay Jenkins | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 0 |

### KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mac Cody | 1 | 18 | 18.0 | 18 | 0 |
| MarTay Jenkins | 82 | 2186 | 26.7 | 98 | 1 |
| Tommy Bennett | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Ronald McKinnon | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 9 | 0 |
| David Barrett | 1 | 46 | 46.0 | 46 | 0 |
| Dennis McKinley | 1 | 20 | 20.0 | 20 | 0 |

### INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aeneas Williams | 5 | 102 | 48 |
| Corey Chavous | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Pat Tillman | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Zack Walz | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kwamie Lassiter | 1 | 11 | 11 |
| Rob Fredrickson | 1 | 8 | 8 |

### SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Simeon Rice | 7.5 | 36.5 |
| Ronald McKinnon | 4.0 | 25.0 |
| Mark Smith | 3.0 | 29.0 |
| James Folston | 2.0 | 1.0 |
| Mark Maddox | 1.5 | 2.5 |
| Pat Tillman | 1.5 | 11.5 |
| Rob Fredrickson | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| Jabari Issa | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| Andre Wadsworth | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Brad Ottis | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| Tom Knight | 1.0 | 7.0 |
| Russell Davis | 0.5 | 2.5 |

### KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cary Blanchard | 16 | 23 | 69.6 | 54 | 18/19 | 94.7 | 66 |

## BALTIMORE RAVENS

### PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tony Banks | 11 | 274 | 150 | 54.7 | 1578 | 8 | 8 | 69.3 |
| Trent Dilfer | 9 | 226 | 134 | 59.3 | 1502 | 12 | 11 | 76.6 |
| Chris Redman | 1 | 3 | 2 | 66.7 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 84.0 |
| Jermaine Lewis | 10 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 97.9 |

### RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shannon Sharpe | 16 | 67 | 810 | 12.1 | 5 |
| Qadry Ismail | 14 | 49 | 655 | 13.4 | 5 |
| Priest Holmes | 16 | 32 | 221 | 6.9 | 0 |
| Travis Taylor | 9 | 28 | 276 | 9.9 | 3 |
| Jamal Lewis | 16 | 27 | 296 | 11.0 | 0 |
| Obafemi Ayanbadejo | 8 | 23 | 168 | 7.3 | 1 |
| Jermaine Lewis | 10 | 19 | 161 | 8.5 | 1 |
| Pat Johnson | 11 | 12 | 156 | 13.0 | 2 |
| Brandon Stokley | 6 | 11 | 184 | 16.7 | 2 |
| Ben Coates | 11 | 9 | 84 | 9.3 | 0 |
| Sam Gash | 5 | 6 | 30 | 5.0 | 1 |
| Billy Davis | 2 | 3 | 62 | 20.7 | 0 |
| Trent Dilfer | 9 | 1 | -1 | -1.0 | 0 |

### RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jamal Lewis | 16 | 309 | 1364 | 4.4 | 6 |
| Priest Holmes | 16 | 137 | 588 | 4.3 | 2 |
| Trent Dilfer | 9 | 20 | 75 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Tony Banks | 11 | 19 | 57 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Jermaine Lewis | 10 | 3 | 38 | 12.7 | 0 |
| Obafemi Ayanbadejo | 8 | 15 | 37 | 2.5 | 1 |
| Pat Johnson | 11 | 2 | 21 | 10.5 | 0 |
| Travis Taylor | 9 | 2 | 11 | 5.5 | 0 |
| Brandon Stokley | 6 | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |
| Sam Gash | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Chris Redman | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

### PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jermaine Lewis | 36 | 578 | 16.1 | 89 | 2 |
| Duane Starks | 9 | 135 | 15.0 | 47 | 0 |

### KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Corey Harris | 39 | 907 | 23.3 | 41 | 0 |
| Qadry Ismail | 2 | 51 | 25.5 | 38 | 0 |
| Jermaine Lewis | 1 | 23 | 23.0 | 23 | 0 |
| Keith Washington | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Ben Coates | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Priest Holmes | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 7 | 0 |
| Cornell Brown | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

### INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Duane Starks | 6 | 125 | 64 |
| Rod Woodson | 4 | 20 | 18 |
| Chris McAlister | 4 | 165 | 98 |
| Kim Herring | 3 | 74 | 30 |
| Ray Lewis | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Corey Harris | 2 | 44 | 42 |
| Rob Burnett | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Jamie Sharper | 1 | 45 | 45 |

### SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Rob Burnett | 10.5 | 57.0 |
| Peter Boulware | 7.0 | 21.0 |
| Michael McCrary | 6.5 | 35.0 |
| Cornell Brown | 3.0 | 17.0 |
| Ray Lewis | 3.0 | 33.0 |
| James Trapp | 2.0 | 5.0 |
| Sam Adams | 2.0 | 5.0 |
| Kim Herring | 1.0 | 5.0 |

### KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Matt Stover | 35 | 39 | 89.7 | 51 | 30/30 | 100.0 | 135 |

# BUFFALO BILLS

### PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rob Johnson | 12 | 306 | 175 | 57.2 | 2125 | 12 | 7 | 82.2 |
| Doug Flutie | 11 | 231 | 132 | 57.1 | 1700 | 8 | 3 | 86.5 |
| Alex Van Pelt | 1 | 8 | 4 | 50.0 | 67 | 0 | 0 | 78.6 |
| Chris Mohr | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 268.7 |

### RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shawn Bryson | 16 | 161 | 591 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Antowain Smith | 10 | 101 | 354 | 3.5 | 4 |
| Sammy Morris | 12 | 93 | 341 | 3.7 | 5 |
| Rob Johnson | 12 | 42 | 307 | 7.3 | 1 |
| Doug Flutie | 11 | 36 | 161 | 4.5 | 1 |
| Jonathan Linton | 6 | 38 | 112 | 2.9 | 0 |
| Peerless Price | 16 | 2 | 32 | 16.0 | 0 |
| Eric Moulds | 16 | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 0 |

### RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eric Moulds | 16 | 94 | 1326 | 14.1 | 5 |
| Peerless Price | 16 | 52 | 762 | 14.7 | 3 |
| Jeremy McDaniel | 16 | 43 | 697 | 16.2 | 2 |
| Sammy Morris | 12 | 37 | 268 | 7.2 | 1 |
| Shawn Bryson | 16 | 32 | 271 | 8.5 | 2 |
| Jay Riemersma | 12 | 31 | 372 | 12.0 | 5 |
| Bobby Collins | 4 | 6 | 72 | 12.0 | 0 |
| Sheldon Jackson | 5 | 5 | 36 | 7.2 | 1 |
| Kwame Cavil | 4 | 4 | 66 | 16.5 | 0 |
| Jonathan Linton | 6 | 3 | 8 | 2.7 | 1 |
| Antowain Smith | 10 | 3 | 20 | 6.7 | 0 |
| Darryl Porter | 1 | 1 | 44 | 44.0 | 0 |
| Rob Johnson | 12 | 1 | -6 | -6.0 | 0 |

### PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chris Watson | 33 | 163 | 4.9 | 20 | 0 |
| Peerless Price | 5 | 27 | 5.4 | 12 | 0 |

### KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LONG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Avion Black | 9 | 165 | 18.3 | 26 | 0 |
| Chris Watson | 8 | 94 | 20.3 | 37 | 0 |
| Shawn Bryson | 8 | 122 | 15.2 | 26 | 0 |
| Jonathan Linton | 3 | 40 | 13.3 | 17 | 0 |
| Jay Foreman | 1 | 19 | 19.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Kwame Cavil | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 0 |
| Henry Jones | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 4 | 0 |
| Sammy Morris | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Antowain Smith | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

### INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Keion Carpenter | 5 | 63 | 22 |
| Henry Jones | 2 | 45 | 45 |
| Sam Cowart | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Ken Irvin | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Daryl Porter | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Sam Rogers | 1 | 10 | 10 |
| John Holecek | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Antoine Winfield | 1 | 8 | 8 |
| Erik Flowers | 1 | 0 | 0 |

### SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Marcellus Wiley | 10.5 | 92.0 |
| Keith Newman | 8.0 | 52.0 |
| Sam Cowart | 5.5 | 38.5 |
| Sam Rogers | 5.0 | 52.0 |
| Pat Williams | 2.5 | 18.0 |
| Ted Washington | 2.5 | 18.5 |
| Phil Hansen | 2.0 | 15.0 |
| Erik Flowers | 2.0 | 9.0 |
| Corey Moore | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Shawn Price | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| Fred Jones | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Leif Larsen | 1.0 | 2.0 |

### KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Steve Christie | 26 | 35 | 74.3 | 48 | 31/31 | 100.0 | 109 |

# CAROLINA PANTHERS

### PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Steve Beuerlein | 16 | 533 | 324 | 60.8 | 3730 | 19 | 18 | 79.7 |
| Jeff Lewis | 5 | 32 | 16 | 50.0 | 120 | 0 | 1 | 46.4 |
| Ken Walter | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.1 |

### RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tim Biakabutuka | 12 | 173 | 627 | 3.6 | 2 |
| Brad Hoover | 11 | 89 | 290 | 3.3 | 1 |
| Steve Beuerlein | 16 | 44 | 106 | 2.4 | 1 |
| Chris Hetherington | 11 | 23 | 65 | 2.8 | 2 |
| Jeff Lewis | 5 | 8 | 36 | 4.5 | 0 |
| William Floyd | 10 | 16 | 33 | 2.1 | 1 |
| Michael Bates | 6 | 5 | 13 | 2.6 | 0 |
| Muhsin Muhammad | 16 | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 0 |
| Dameyune Craig | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Ken Walter | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

### RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Muhsin Muhammad | 16 | 102 | 1183 | 11.6 | 6 |
| Donald Hayes | 15 | 66 | 926 | 14.0 | 3 |
| Tim Biakabutuka | 12 | 34 | 341 | 10.0 | 2 |
| Wesley Walls | 8 | 31 | 422 | 13.6 | 2 |
| Isaac Byrd | 13 | 22 | 241 | 11.0 | 2 |
| Kris Mangum | 12 | 19 | 215 | 11.3 | 1 |
| William Floyd | 10 | 17 | 114 | 6.7 | 1 |
| Brad Hoover | 11 | 15 | 112 | 7.5 | 0 |
| Chris Hetherington | 11 | 14 | 116 | 8.3 | 1 |
| Michael Bates | 6 | 5 | 38 | 7.6 | 0 |
| Iheanyi Uwaezuoke | 4 | 4 | 46 | 11.5 | 0 |
| Casey Crawford | 6 | 4 | 47 | 11.7 | 1 |
| Karl Hankton | 5 | 4 | 38 | 9.5 | 0 |
| Dameyune Craig | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Brian Kinchen | 1 | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 0 |

### PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Iheanyi Uwaezuoke | 10 | 173 | 17.3 | 64 | 1 |
| Michael Bates | 7 | 31 | 4.4 | 12 | 0 |

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eric Davis | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Isaac Byrd | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Jimmy Hitchcock | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

### KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Michael Bates | 42 | 941 | 22.4 | 92 | 1 |
| Isaac Byrd | 9 | 172 | 19.1 | 30 | 0 |
| Chris Hetherington | 2 | 21 | 10.5 | 11 | 0 |
| Diaello Burks | 1 | 25 | 25.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Ray Green | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 0 |

### INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Eric Davis | 5 | 14 | 8 |
| Jimmy Hitchcock | 3 | 116 | 88 |
| Doug Evans | 2 | 17 | 17 |
| Mike Minter | 2 | 38 | 30 |
| Eugene Robinson | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Sean Gilbert | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Lee Woodall | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Dean Wells | 1 | 14 | 14 |
| Hannibal Navies | 1 | 0 | 0 |

### SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Jay Williams | 6.0 | 55.0 |
| Reggie White | 5.5 | 45.0 |
| Sean Gilbert | 4.0 | 29.0 |
| Mike Rucker | 2.5 | 39.0 |
| Tim Morabito | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Hannibal Navies | 2.0 | 15.0 |
| Mike Minter | 2.0 | 14.0 |
| Jason Peter | 2.0 | 12.0 |
| Eric Swann | 1.0 | 9.0 |

### KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Joe Nedney | 34 | 37 | 91.9 | 52 | 24/24 | 100.0 | 126 |
| Richie Cunningham | 5 | 7 | 71.4 | 42 | 9/9 | 100.0 | 24 |

# CHICAGO BEARS

### PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cade McNown | 10 | 280 | 154 | 55.0 | 1646 | 8 | 9 | 68.5 |
| Shane Matthews | 6 | 178 | 102 | 57.3 | 964 | 3 | 6 | 64.0 |
| Jim Miller | 3 | 82 | 47 | 57.3 | 382 | 1 | 1 | 68.2 |
| Louie Aguiar | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 139.6 |
| Mark Hartsell | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.1 |

### RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| James Allen | 16 | 290 | 1120 | 3.9 | 2 |
| Cade McNown | 10 | 50 | 326 | 6.5 | 3 |
| Curtis Enis | 11 | 36 | 84 | 2.3 | 1 |
| Marlon Barnes | 6 | 15 | 81 | 5.4 | 0 |
| Eddie Kennison | 16 | 3 | 72 | 24.0 | 0 |
| Shane Matthews | 6 | 10 | 35 | 3.5 | 0 |
| Marcus Robinson | 11 | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 0 |
| Glyn Milburn | 3 | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |
| Jim Miller | 3 | 7 | 5 | 0.7 | 0 |
| Bobby Engram | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Marty Booker | 15 | 2 | -1 | -0.5 | 0 |
| D'Wayne Bates | 5 | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | 0 |

### RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marcus Robinson | 11 | 55 | 738 | 13.4 | 5 |
| Eddie Kennison | 16 | 55 | 549 | 10.0 | 2 |
| Marty Booker | 15 | 47 | 490 | 10.4 | 2 |
| James Allen | 16 | 39 | 291 | 7.5 | 1 |
| Macey Brooks | 15 | 26 | 216 | 8.3 | 0 |
| Kaseem Sinceno | 11 | 23 | 206 | 9.0 | 0 |
| Bobby Engram | 3 | 16 | 109 | 6.8 | 0 |
| Dez White | 9 | 10 | 87 | 8.7 | 1 |
| John Allred | 5 | 9 | 109 | 12.1 | 1 |
| Curtis Enis | 11 | 8 | 68 | 8.5 | 0 |
| D'Wayne Bates | 5 | 4 | 42 | 10.5 | 0 |
| Scott Dragos | 5 | 4 | 28 | 7.0 | 0 |
| Alonzo Mayes | 5 | 4 | 40 | 10.0 | 0 |
| Dustin Lyman | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Glyn Milburn | 3 | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Marlon Barnes | 6 | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 0 |
| Mike Wells | 1 | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 0 |

### PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Glyn Milburn | 35 | 300 | 8.6 | 25 | 0 |

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Walt Harris | 1 | 14 | 14.0 | 14 | 0 |

### KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Glyn Milburn | 63 | 1468 | 23.3 | 38 | 0 |
| Curtis Enis | 2 | 30 | 15.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Rex Tucker | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kaseem Sinceno | 1 | 12 | 12.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Van Tuinei | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |

### INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tony Parrish | 3 | 81 | 38 |
| Walt Harris | 2 | 35 | 35 |
| Brian Urlacher | 2 | 19 | 19 |
| Jerry Azumah | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| R.W. McQuarters | 1 | 61 | 61 |
| Mike Brown | 1 | 35 | 35 |
| Mike Wells | 1 | 21 | 21 |

### SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Brian Urlacher | 8.0 | 49.0 |
| Phillip Daniels | 6.0 | 38.0 |
| Bryan Robinson | 4.5 | 28.0 |
| Jim Flanigan | 4.0 | 17.0 |
| Rosevelt Colvin | 3.0 | 33.0 |
| Frank Smith | 2.0 | 18.0 |
| Tony Parrish | 2.0 | 15.0 |
| Troy Wilson | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Thomas Smith | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| Sean Harris | 1.0 | 11.0 |
| Mike Wells | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Brad Culpepper | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| Van Tuinei | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Clyde Simmons | 0.5 | 4.0 |

### KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Paul Edinger | 21 | 27 | 77.8 | 54 | 21/21 | 100.0 | 84 |

# CINCINNATI BENGALS

### PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Akili Smith | 11 | 267 | 118 | 44.2 | 1253 | 3 | 6 | 52.8 |
| Scott Mitchell | 8 | 187 | 89 | 47.6 | 966 | 3 | 8 | 50.8 |

### RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Corey Dillon | 16 | 315 | 1435 | 4.6 | 7 |
| Brandon Bennett | 15 | 90 | 324 | 3.6 | 3 |
| Akili Smith | 11 | 41 | 232 | 5.7 | 0 |
| Peter Warrick | 16 | 16 | 148 | 9.2 | 2 |
| Scott Mitchell | 8 | 10 | 61 | 6.1 | 1 |
| Nick Williams | 9 | 10 | 54 | 5.4 | 0 |
| Curtis Keaton | 3 | 6 | 24 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Daniel Pope | 2 | 2 | 22 | 11.0 | 0 |
| Craig Yeast | 14 | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 0 |
| Clif Groce | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1.3 | 0 |
| Neil Rackers | 1 | 1 | -5 | -5.0 | 0 |

### RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Peter Warrick | 16 | 51 | 592 | 11.6 | 4 |
| Tony McGee | 12 | 26 | 309 | 11.9 | 1 |
| Craig Yeast | 14 | 24 | 301 | 12.5 | 0 |
| Danny Farmer | 9 | 19 | 268 | 14.1 | 0 |
| Brandon Bennett | 15 | 19 | 168 | 8.8 | 0 |
| Corey Dillon | 16 | 18 | 158 | 8.8 | 0 |
| Ron Dugans | 8 | 14 | 125 | 8.9 | 1 |
| Marco Battaglia | 14 | 13 | 105 | 8.1 | 0 |
| Clif Groce | 6 | 11 | 45 | 4.1 | 0 |
| Nick Williams | 9 | 7 | 84 | 12.0 | 0 |
| Steve Bush | 3 | 3 | 39 | 13.0 | 0 |
| Damon Griffin | 5 | 2 | 25 | 12.5 | 0 |

### PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Craig Yeast | 34 | 225 | 6.6 | 27 | 0 |
| Peter Warrick | 7 | 123 | 17.6 | 82 | 1 |
| Damon Griffin | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 9 | 0 |

### KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tremain Mack | 50 | 1036 | 20.7 | 50 | 0 |
| Damon Griffin | 8 | 129 | 16.1 | 29 | 0 |
| Craig Yeast | 7 | 106 | 15.1 | 29 | 0 |
| Curtis Keaton | 6 | 100 | 16.7 | 25 | 0 |
| Steve Bush | 3 | 18 | 6.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Nick Williams | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Rodney Heath | 1 | 22 | 22.0 | 22 | 0 |

### INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tom Carter | 2 | 40 | 30 |
| Takeo Spikes | 2 | 12 | 7 |
| Steve Foley | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Darryl Williams | 1 | 36 | 36 |
| Chris Carter | 1 | 6 | 6 |
| Robert Bean | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Cory Hall | 1 | 12 | 12 |

### SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Cory Hall | 4.0 | 32.0 |
| Steve Foley | 4.0 | 16.0 |
| Oliver Gibson | 4.0 | 17.0 |
| Reinard Wilson | 3.0 | 16.0 |
| Takeo Spikes | 2.0 | 16.0 |
| Glen Steele | 2.0 | 17.0 |
| Canute Curtis | 2.0 | 9.0 |
| John Copeland | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Armegis Spearman | 1.0 | 12.0 |
| Chris Carter | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| Adrian Ross | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Brian Simmons | 1.0 | 10.0 |

### KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Neil Rackers | 12 | 21 | 57.1 | 45 | 21/21 | 100.0 | 57 |

# CLEVELAND BROWNS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tim Couch | 7 | 215 | 137 | 63.7 | 1483 | 7 | 9 | 77.3 |
| Doug Pederson | 10 | 210 | 117 | 55.7 | 1047 | 2 | 8 | 56.6 |
| Spergon Wynn | 7 | 54 | 22 | 40.7 | 167 | 0 | 1 | 41.2 |
| Kevin Johnson | 16 | 3 | 1 | 33.3 | 23 | 0 | 1 | -77.1 |
| Kevin Thompson | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 118.7 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Travis Prentice | 15 | 173 | 512 | 3.0 | 7 |
| Errict Rhett | 5 | 71 | 258 | 3.6 | 0 |
| Jamel White | 10 | 47 | 145 | 3.1 | 0 |
| Doug Pederson | 10 | 18 | 68 | 3.8 | 0 |
| Tim Couch | 7 | 12 | 45 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Dennis Northcutt | 15 | 9 | 33 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Spergon Wynn | 7 | 3 | 15 | 5.0 | 0 |
| Marc Edwards | 13 | 2 | 9 | 4.5 | 0 |
| Kevin Thompson | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Johnson | 16 | 57 | 669 | 11.7 | 0 |
| Dennis Northcutt | 15 | 39 | 422 | 10.8 | 0 |
| David Patten | 12 | 38 | 546 | 14.4 | 1 |
| Travis Prentice | 15 | 37 | 191 | 5.2 | 1 |
| Aaron Shea | 15 | 30 | 302 | 10.1 | 2 |
| Marc Edwards | 13 | 16 | 128 | 8.0 | 2 |
| Errict Rhett | 5 | 14 | 78 | 5.6 | 0 |
| Jamel White | 10 | 13 | 100 | 7.7 | 0 |
| Mark Campbell | 9 | 12 | 80 | 6.7 | 1 |
| JaLuan Dawson | 2 | 9 | 97 | 10.8 | 1 |
| Darrin Chiaverini | 6 | 8 | 68 | 8.5 | 1 |
| Bobby Brown | 3 | 2 | 14 | 7.0 | 0 |
| Lenzie Jackson | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |
| Tarek Saleh | 2 | 1 | 22 | 22.0 | 0 |
| Damon Dunn | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dennis Northcutt | 27 | 289 | 10.7 | 30 | 0 |
| Lamar Chapman | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 5 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jamel White | 43 | 935 | 21.7 | 40 | 0 |
| David Patten | 22 | 469 | 21.3 | 62 | 0 |
| Lenzie Jackson | 9 | 168 | 18.7 | 30 | 0 |
| Tarek Saleh | 4 | 46 | 11.5 | 15 | 0 |
| Mark Campbell | 3 | 30 | 10.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Earl Little | 2 | 20 | 10.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Marc Edwards | 1 | 24 | 24.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Chester Burnett | 1 | 18 | 18.0 | 18 | 0 |
| Rodney Heath | 1 | 22 | 22.0 | 22 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Corey Fuller | 3 | 37 | 37 |
| Jamir Miller | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Wali Rainer | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Lewis Sanders | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Daylon McCutcheon | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Lamar Chapman | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Percy Ellsworth | 1 | 33 | 33 |
| Earl Little | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Marty Moore | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Darius Holland | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Keith McKenzie | 8.0 | 58.5 |
| Jamir Miller | 5.0 | 43.0 |
| Courtney Brown | 4.5 | 22.5 |
| Daylon McCutcheon | 4.0 | 24.0 |
| Stalin Colinet | 3.5 | 25.0 |
| Lenoy Jones | 2.5 | 13.0 |
| Orpheus Roye | 2.0 | 13.0 |
| Rahim Abdullah | 2.0 | 14.0 |
| Tyrone Rogers | 2.0 | 11.0 |
| Marcus Spriggs | 2.0 | 18.0 |
| Arnold Miller | 1.5 | 7.0 |
| Marquis Smith | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Marty Moore | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Darius Holland | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Wali Rainer | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Mike Thompson | 1.0 | 5.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Phil Dawson | 14 | 17 | 82.4 | 45 | 17/17 | 100.0 | 59 |

# DALLAS COWBOYS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Troy Aikman | 11 | 262 | 156 | 59.5 | 1632 | 7 | 14 | 64.3 |
| Randall Cunningham | 6 | 125 | 74 | 59.2 | 849 | 6 | 4 | 82.4 |
| Anthony Wright | 4 | 53 | 22 | 41.5 | 237 | 0 | 3 | 31.7 |
| Clint Stoerner | 1 | 5 | 3 | 60.0 | 53 | 1 | 0 | 162.9 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Emmitt Smith | 16 | 294 | 1203 | 4.1 | 9 |
| Chris Warren | 12 | 59 | 254 | 4.3 | 2 |
| Randall Cunningham | 6 | 23 | 89 | 3.9 | 1 |
| Michael Wiley | 8 | 24 | 88 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Raghib Ismail | 8 | 8 | 73 | 9.1 | 0 |
| Robert Thomas | 14 | 15 | 51 | 3.4 | 0 |
| Wane McGarity | 12 | 6 | 49 | 8.2 | 1 |
| Jason Tucker | 11 | 4 | 42 | 10.5 | 1 |
| Anthony Wright | 4 | 12 | 36 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Troy Hambrick | 1 | 6 | 28 | 4.7 | 0 |
| Dexter Coakley | 1 | 1 | 26 | 26.0 | 0 |
| Troy Aikman | 11 | 10 | 13 | 1.3 | 0 |
| Tim Seder | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| James McKnight | 16 | 52 | 926 | 17.8 | 2 |
| Jackie Harris | 16 | 39 | 306 | 7.8 | 5 |
| Chris Warren | 12 | 31 | 302 | 9.7 | 1 |
| Wane McGarity | 12 | 25 | 250 | 10.0 | 0 |
| Raghib Ismail | 8 | 25 | 350 | 14.0 | 1 |
| Robert Thomas | 14 | 23 | 117 | 5.1 | 2 |
| Michael Wiley | 8 | 14 | 72 | 5.1 | 1 |
| Jason Tucker | 11 | 13 | 126 | 9.7 | 0 |
| David LaFleur | 10 | 12 | 109 | 9.1 | 1 |
| Emmitt Smith | 16 | 11 | 79 | 7.2 | 0 |
| Damon Hodge | 3 | 4 | 60 | 15.0 | 0 |
| Joey Galloway | 1 | 4 | 62 | 15.5 | 1 |
| Chris Brazzell | 3 | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wane McGarity | 30 | 353 | 11.8 | 64 | 2 |
| Jason Tucker | 4 | 9 | 2.2 | 8 | 0 |
| Joey Galloway | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jason Tucker | 51 | 1099 | 21.5 | 90 | 0 |
| Michael Wiley | 13 | 303 | 23.3 | 38 | 0 |
| David LaFleur | 2 | 21 | 10.5 | 13 | 0 |
| O.J. Santiago | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Dwayne Goodrich | 1 | 12 | 12.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Brandon Noble | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 8 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Phillippi Sparks | 5 | 59 | 43 |
| Dat Nguyen | 2 | 31 | 24 |
| Izell Reese | 2 | 60 | 46 |
| Barron Wortham | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Darren Woodson | 2 | 12 | 12 |
| Ryan McNeil | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Charlie Williams | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Ebenezer Ekuban | 6.5 | 50.5 |
| Alonzo Spellman | 5.0 | 33.0 |
| Dimitrius Underwood | 4.0 | 37.0 |
| Greg Ellis | 4.0 | 27.0 |
| Leon Lett | 2.5 | 19.5 |
| Peppi Zellner | 2.0 | 18.0 |
| Darren Hambrick | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Brandon Noble | 1.0 | 1.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tim Seder | 25 | 33 | 75.8 | 48 | 27/27 | 100.0 | 102 |

# DENVER BRONCOS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brian Griese | 10 | 336 | 216 | 64.3 | 2688 | 19 | 4 | 102.9 |
| Gus Frerotte | 9 | 232 | 138 | 59.5 | 1776 | 9 | 8 | 82.1 |
| Jarious Jackson | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.1 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mike Anderson | 14 | 297 | 1500 | 5.1 | 15 |
| Terrell Davis | 5 | 78 | 282 | 3.6 | 2 |
| KaRon Coleman | 7 | 54 | 183 | 3.4 | 1 |
| Brian Griese | 10 | 29 | 102 | 3.5 | 1 |
| Rod Smith | 16 | 6 | 99 | 16.5 | 1 |
| Olandis Gary | 1 | 13 | 80 | 6.2 | 0 |
| Gus Frerotte | 9 | 22 | 64 | 2.9 | 1 |
| Raymont Harris | 2 | 10 | 22 | 2.2 | 0 |
| Howard Griffith | 13 | 5 | 4 | 0.8 | 0 |
| Jarious Jackson | 2 | 1 | -1 | -1.0 | 0 |
| Tom Rouen | 1 | 1 | -11 | -11.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ed McCaffrey | 16 | 101 | 1317 | 13.0 | 9 |
| Rod Smith | 16 | 100 | 1602 | 16.0 | 8 |
| Dwayne Carswell | 16 | 49 | 495 | 10.1 | 3 |
| Desmond Clark | 13 | 27 | 339 | 12.6 | 3 |
| Mike Anderson | 14 | 23 | 169 | 7.3 | 0 |
| Byron Chamberlain | 9 | 22 | 283 | 12.9 | 1 |
| Howard Griffith | 13 | 16 | 101 | 6.3 | 2 |
| Robert Brooks | 2 | 3 | 51 | 17.0 | 0 |
| Olandis Gary | 1 | 3 | 10 | 3.3 | 0 |
| Terrell Davis | 5 | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Raymont Harris | 2 | 2 | 19 | 9.5 | 0 |
| Travis McGriff | 6 | 2 | 51 | 25.5 | 1 |
| Scottie Montgomery | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 0 |
| Detron Smith | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 |
| Billy Miller | 4 | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 0 |
| KaRon Coleman | 7 | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deltha O'Neal | 34 | 354 | 10.4 | 64 | 0 |
| Terrell Buckley | 2 | 10 | 5.0 | 11 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deltha O'Neal | 46 | 1102 | 24.0 | 87 | 1 |
| Chris Cole | 11 | 264 | 24.0 | 37 | 0 |
| Detron Smith | 5 | 73 | 14.6 | 17 | 0 |
| Byron Chamberlain | 2 | 25 | 12.5 | 13 | 0 |
| Billy Miller | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Dwayne Carswell | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Terrell Buckley | 6 | 110 | 33 |
| Ray Crockett | 4 | 31 | 26 |
| Billy Jenkins | 4 | 61 | 36 |
| Eric Brown | 3 | 9 | 9 |
| Jimmy Spencer | 3 | 102 | 79 |
| Al Wilson | 3 | 21 | 20 |
| Bill Romanowski | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| John Mobley | 1 | 9 | 9 |
| Kenoy Kennedy | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Trevor Pryce | 12.0 | 76.5 |
| Kavika Pittman | 7.0 | 43.0 |
| Al Wilson | 5.0 | 31.0 |
| Maa Tanuvasa | 4.0 | 19.0 |
| Bill Romanowski | 3.5 | 17.0 |
| Harald Hasselbach | 2.5 | 10.5 |
| John Mobley | 2.0 | 16.0 |
| Ian Gold | 2.0 | 4.0 |
| Montae Reagor | 2.0 | 19.0 |
| Jimmy Spencer | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Keith Traylor | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Eric Brown | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Ray Crockett | 1.0 | 6.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jason Elam | 18 | 24 | 75.0 | 51 | 49/49 | 100.0 | 103 |

# DETROIT LIONS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Charlie Batch | 15 | 412 | 221 | 53.6 | 2489 | 13 | 15 | 67.3 |
| Stoney Case | 5 | 91 | 56 | 61.5 | 503 | 1 | 4 | 61.7 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| James Stewart | 16 | 339 | 1184 | 3.5 | 10 |
| Charlie Batch | 15 | 44 | 199 | 4.5 | 2 |
| Mario Bates | 12 | 31 | 127 | 4.1 | 2 |
| Stoney Case | 5 | 16 | 117 | 7.3 | 1 |
| Sedrick Irvin | 5 | 9 | 49 | 5.4 | 0 |
| Larry Foster | 9 | 2 | 31 | 15.5 | 0 |
| Johnnie Morton | 16 | 4 | 25 | 6.2 | 0 |
| Germane Crowell | 9 | 1 | 12 | 12.0 | 0 |
| Cory Schlesinger | 14 | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 |
| John Jett | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Johnnie Morton | 16 | 61 | 788 | 12.9 | 3 |
| Herman Moore | 14 | 40 | 434 | 10.8 | 3 |
| Germane Crowell | 9 | 34 | 430 | 12.6 | 3 |
| James Stewart | 16 | 32 | 287 | 9.0 | 1 |
| David Sloan | 14 | 32 | 379 | 11.8 | 2 |
| Larry Foster | 9 | 17 | 175 | 10.3 | 1 |
| Mario Bates | 12 | 15 | 109 | 7.3 | 0 |
| Cory Schlesinger | 14 | 12 | 73 | 6.1 | 0 |
| Walter Rasby | 9 | 10 | 78 | 7.8 | 1 |
| Brian Stablein | 8 | 8 | 53 | 6.6 | 0 |
| Sedrick Irvin | 5 | 8 | 90 | 11.2 | 0 |
| Alfred Pupunu | 2 | 3 | 32 | 10.7 | 0 |
| Brock Olivo | 3 | 3 | 50 | 16.7 | 0 |
| Desmond Howard | 2 | 2 | 14 | 7.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Desmond Howard | 31 | 457 | 14.7 | 95 | 1 |
| Terry Fair | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 11 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Desmond Howard | 57 | 1401 | 24.6 | 70 | 0 |
| Terry Fair | 6 | 149 | 24.8 | 31 | 0 |
| Brock Olivo | 3 | 25 | 8.3 | 13 | 0 |
| Cory Schlesinger | 2 | 25 | 12.5 | 14 | 0 |
| Eric Beverly | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kurt Schulz | 7 | 53 | 19 |
| Bryant Westbrook | 6 | 126 | 101 |
| Terry Fair | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Corwin Brown | 2 | 12 | 12 |
| Darnell Walker | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Allen Aldridge | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Lamar Campbell | 1 | 42 | 42 |
| Stephen Boyd | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Chris Claiborne | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ron Rice | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Kelvin Pritchett | 1 | 78 | 78 |
| Marquis Walker | 1 | 12 | 12 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Robert Porcher | 8.0 | 51.0 |
| Tracy Scroggins | 6.5 | 38.0 |
| James Jones | 3.0 | 21.0 |
| Luther Elliss | 3.0 | 11.0 |
| Kelvin Pritchett | 2.5 | 7.0 |
| Allen Aldridge | 2.0 | 21.0 |
| James Hall | 1.0 | 7.0 |
| Stephen Boyd | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Travis Kirschke | 0.5 | 3.0 |
| Corwin Brown | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Chris Claiborne | 0.5 | 3.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jason Hanson | 24 | 30 | 80.0 | 54 | 29/29 | 100.0 | 101 |

# GREEN BAY PACKERS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brett Favre | 16 | 580 | 338 | 58.3 | 3812 | 20 | 16 | 78.0 |
| Matt Hasselbeck | 4 | 19 | 10 | 52.6 | 104 | 1 | 0 | 86.3 |
| Ahman Green | 16 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.1 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahman Green | 16 | 263 | 1175 | 4.5 | 10 |
| Dorsey Levens | 5 | 77 | 224 | 2.9 | 3 |
| Brett Favre | 16 | 27 | 108 | 4.0 | 0 |
| De'Mond Parker | 8 | 18 | 85 | 4.7 | 0 |
| William Henderson | 16 | 2 | 16 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Allen Rossum | 1 | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 0 |
| Bill Schroeder | 16 | 2 | 11 | 5.5 | 0 |
| Basil Mitchell | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Antonio Freeman | 15 | 2 | 5 | 2.5 | 0 |
| Donald Driver | 15 | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Danny Wuerffel | 1 | 2 | -2 | -1.0 | 0 |
| Herbert Goodman | 3 | 3 | -2 | -0.7 | 0 |
| Matt Hasselbeck | 4 | 4 | -5 | -1.2 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahman Green | 16 | 73 | 559 | 7.7 | 3 |
| Bill Schroeder | 16 | 65 | 999 | 15.4 | 4 |
| Antonio Freeman | 15 | 62 | 912 | 14.7 | 9 |
| William Henderson | 16 | 35 | 234 | 6.7 | 1 |
| Bubba Franks | 15 | 34 | 363 | 10.7 | 1 |
| Donald Driver | 15 | 21 | 322 | 15.3 | 1 |
| Tyrone Davis | 12 | 19 | 177 | 9.3 | 2 |
| Dorsey Levens | 5 | 16 | 146 | 9.1 | 0 |
| Charles Lee | 9 | 10 | 134 | 13.4 | 0 |
| De'Mond Parker | 8 | 9 | 50 | 5.6 | 0 |
| Ryan Wetnight | 4 | 3 | 20 | 6.7 | 0 |
| Herbert Goodman | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Allen Rossum | 29 | 248 | 8.6 | 43 | 0 |
| Charles Lee | 5 | 52 | 10.4 | 16 | 0 |
| Mike McKenzie | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Allen Rossum | 50 | 1288 | 25.8 | 92 | 1 |
| Herbert Goodman | 4 | 129 | 32.2 | 54 | 0 |
| William Henderson | 5 | 80 | 16.0 | 22 | 0 |
| Gary Berry | 1 | 22 | 22.0 | 22 | 0 |
| David Bowens | 1 | 12 | 12.0 | 12 | 0 |
| Basil Mitchell | 1 | 26 | 26.0 | 26 | 0 |
| Mike Morton | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Ryan Wetnight | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Darren Sharper | 9 | 109 | 47 |
| Tyrone Williams | 4 | 105 | 46 |
| Antuan Edwards | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| LeRoy Butler | 2 | 25 | 22 |
| Tod McBride | 2 | 43 | 43 |
| Mike McKenzie | 1 | 26 | 26 |
| Vonnie Holliday | 1 | 3 | 3 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| John Thierry | 6.5 | 52.5 |
| Santana Dotson | 6.0 | 36.0 |
| Cletidus Hunt | 5.0 | 14.0 |
| Vonnie Holliday | 5.0 | 20.0 |
| David Bowens | 3.5 | 32.0 |
| Nate Wayne | 2.0 | 18.0 |
| Bernardo Harris | 2.0 | 17.0 |
| LeRoy Butler | 2.0 | 17.0 |
| Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila | 1.5 | 10.5 |
| Billy Lyon | 1.0 | 7.0 |
| Darren Sharper | 1.0 | 12.0 |
| Scott McGarrahan | 0.5 | 2.0 |
| K.D. Williams | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Brian Williams | 0.5 | 0.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ryan Longwell | 33 | 38 | 86.8 | 52 | 32/32 | 100.0 | 131 |

# INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Peyton Manning | 16 | 571 | 357 | 62.5 | 4413 | 33 | 15 | 94.7 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Edgerrin James | 16 | 387 | 1709 | 4.4 | 13 |
| Peyton Manning | 16 | 37 | 116 | 3.1 | 1 |
| Lennox Gordon | 2 | 4 | 13 | 3.2 | 0 |
| Hunter Smith | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 0 |
| Terrence Wilkins | 13 | 3 | 8 | 2.7 | 0 |
| Jerome Pathon | 16 | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Jim Finn | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Abdul-Karim al-Jabbar | 1 | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marvin Harrison | 16 | 102 | 1413 | 13.9 | 14 |
| Edgerrin James | 16 | 63 | 594 | 9.4 | 5 |
| Jerome Pathon | 16 | 50 | 646 | 12.9 | 3 |
| Ken Dilger | 15 | 47 | 538 | 11.4 | 3 |
| Terrence Wilkins | 13 | 43 | 569 | 13.2 | 3 |
| Marcus Pollard | 14 | 30 | 439 | 14.6 | 3 |
| E.G. Green | 5 | 18 | 201 | 11.2 | 1 |
| Jim Finn | 6 | 4 | 13 | 3.2 | 1 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Terrence Wilkins | 29 | 240 | 8.3 | 36 | 0 |
| Payton Williams | 7 | 108 | 15.4 | 40 | 0 |
| Mustafah Muhammad | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 4 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jerome Pathon | 26 | 583 | 22.4 | 48 | 0 |
| Terrence Wilkins | 15 | 279 | 18.6 | 30 | 0 |
| Payton Williams | 12 | 238 | 19.8 | 29 | 0 |
| Mustafah Muhammad | 2 | 45 | 22.5 | 26 | 0 |
| Ken Dilger | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bernard Holsey | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 10 | 0 |
| David Macklin | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jeff Burris | 4 | 38 | 27 |
| Mike Peterson | 2 | 8 | 5 |
| David Macklin | 2 | 35 | 35 |
| Chad Cota | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Mustafah Muhammad | 1 | 40 | 40 |
| Marcus Washington | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Tyrone Poole | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ellis Johnson | 1 | -1 | -1 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Chad Bratzke | 7.5 | 69.0 |
| Jason Belser | 5.0 | 25.0 |
| Ellis Johnson | 5.0 | 25.0 |
| Mark Thomas | 5.0 | 32.0 |
| Cornelius Bennett | 3.0 | 17.0 |
| Josh Williams | 3.0 | 18.5 |
| Jeff Burris | 2.5 | 18.5 |
| Marcus Washington | 2.0 | 13.0 |
| Bernard Holsey | 2.0 | 6.0 |
| Brad Scioli | 2.0 | 7.0 |
| Larry Chester | 2.0 | 7.0 |
| Bernard Whittington | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Dwight Hollier | 1.0 | 7.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mike Vanderjagt | 25 | 27 | 92.6 | 48 | 46/46 | 100.0 | 121 |

# JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mark Brunell | 16 | 512 | 311 | 60.7 | 3640 | 20 | 14 | 84.0 |
| Jamie Martin | 5 | 33 | 22 | 66.7 | 307 | 2 | 1 | 104.0 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fred Taylor | 13 | 292 | 1399 | 4.8 | 12 |
| Mark Brunell | 16 | 48 | 236 | 4.9 | 2 |
| Stacey Mack | 3 | 54 | 145 | 2.7 | 1 |
| Anthony Johnson | 11 | 28 | 112 | 4.0 | 1 |
| Shyrone Stith | 7 | 20 | 55 | 2.7 | 1 |
| Chris Howard | 2 | 21 | 52 | 2.5 | 1 |
| R.Jay Soward | 10 | 3 | 28 | 9.3 | 0 |
| Jermaine Williams | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Daimon Shelton | 8 | 2 | 3 | 1.5 | 0 |
| Chad Dukes | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Jonathan Quinn | 1 | 2 | -2 | -1.0 | 0 |
| Jamie Martin | 5 | 7 | -6 | -0.9 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Keenan McCardell | 16 | 94 | 1207 | 12.8 | 5 |
| Jimmy Smith | 15 | 91 | 1213 | 13.3 | 8 |
| Kyle Brady | 16 | 64 | 729 | 11.4 | 3 |
| Fred Taylor | 13 | 36 | 240 | 6.7 | 2 |
| R.Jay Soward | 10 | 14 | 154 | 11.0 | 1 |
| Alvis Whitted | 10 | 13 | 137 | 10.5 | 3 |
| Anthony Johnson | 11 | 12 | 153 | 12.7 | 0 |
| Daimon Shelton | 8 | 4 | 48 | 12.0 | 0 |
| Chris Howard | 2 | 3 | 26 | 8.7 | 0 |
| Damon Jones | 1 | 1 | 12 | 12.0 | 0 |
| Reggie Barlow | 2 | 1 | 28 | 28.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reggie Barlow | 29 | 200 | 6.9 | 21 | 0 |
| R.Jay Soward | 14 | 108 | 7.7 | 18 | 0 |
| Keenan McCardell | 3 | 25 | 8.3 | 22 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shyrone Stith | 33 | 785 | 23.8 | 47 | 0 |
| Reggie Barlow | 11 | 224 | 20.4 | 27 | 0 |
| Stacey Mack | 6 | 104 | 17.3 | 35 | 0 |
| R.Jay Soward | 4 | 93 | 23.2 | 28 | 0 |
| Alvis Whitted | 4 | 67 | 16.7 | 20 | 0 |
| Jermaine Williams | 2 | 50 | 25.0 | 30 | 0 |
| Todd Fordham | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Emarlos Leroy | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mike Logan | 2 | 14 | 14 |
| Donovin Darius | 2 | 26 | 21 |
| Rayna Stewart | 2 | 37 | 24 |
| Brant Boyer | 1 | 12 | 12 |
| Aaron Beasley | 1 | 39 | 39 |
| Hardy Nickerson | 1 | 10 | 10 |
| Tony Brackens | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Kevin Hardy | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Fernando Bryant | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Tony Brackens | 7.5 | 39.5 |
| Joel Smeenge | 6.0 | 46.0 |
| Gary Walker | 5.0 | 36.0 |
| Aaron Beasley | 5.0 | 28.0 |
| Renaldo Wynn | 3.5 | 22.5 |
| Brant Boyer | 3.5 | 25.5 |
| Kevin Hardy | 3.0 | 20.0 |
| Seth Payne | 2.0 | 6.0 |
| Hardy Nickerson | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Donovin Darius | 1.0 | 11.0 |
| Paul Spicer | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| Mike Logan | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Rob Meier | 0.5 | 1.5 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mike Hollis | 24 | 26 | 92.3 | 51 | 33/33 | 100.0 | 105 |
| Steve Lindsey | 5 | 7 | 71.4 | 49 | 5/5 | 100.0 | 20 |

# KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Elvis Grbac | 15 | 547 | 326 | 59.6 | 4169 | 28 | 14 | 89.9 |
| Warren Moon | 2 | 34 | 15 | 44.1 | 208 | 1 | 1 | 61.9 |
| Sylvester Morris | 15 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 214.6 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tony Richardson | 16 | 147 | 697 | 4.7 | 3 |
| Kimble Anders | 11 | 76 | 331 | 4.4 | 2 |
| Frank Moreau | 10 | 67 | 179 | 2.7 | 4 |
| Elvis Grbac | 15 | 30 | 110 | 3.7 | 1 |
| Mike Cloud | 6 | 30 | 84 | 2.8 | 1 |
| Derrick Alexander | 16 | 3 | 45 | 15.0 | 0 |
| Donnell Bennett | 6 | 27 | 24 | 0.9 | 1 |
| Warren Moon | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Larry Parker | 3 | 1 | -7 | -7.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tony Gonzalez | 16 | 93 | 1203 | 12.9 | 9 |
| Derrick Alexander | 16 | 78 | 1391 | 17.8 | 10 |
| Tony Richardson | 16 | 58 | 468 | 8.1 | 3 |
| Sylvester Morris | 15 | 48 | 678 | 14.1 | 3 |
| Kevin Lockett | 16 | 33 | 422 | 12.8 | 2 |
| Kimble Anders | 11 | 15 | 76 | 5.1 | 0 |
| Troy Drayton | 8 | 8 | 70 | 8.7 | 2 |
| Larry Parker | 3 | 3 | 41 | 13.7 | 0 |
| Jason Dunn | 2 | 2 | 26 | 13.0 | 0 |
| Donnell Bennett | 6 | 2 | 17 | 8.5 | 0 |
| Mike Cloud | 6 | 2 | 16 | 8.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Lockett | 26 | 208 | 8.0 | 26 | 0 |
| Larry Parker | 5 | 50 | 10.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Dante Hall | 6 | 37 | 6.2 | 22 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mike Cloud | 36 | 779 | 21.6 | 38 | 0 |
| Dante Hall | 17 | 358 | 21.1 | 36 | 0 |
| Larry Parker | 14 | 279 | 19.9 | 27 | 0 |
| Kimble Anders | 1 | 14 | 14.0 | 14 | 0 |
| Kevin Lockett | 1 | 25 | 25.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Marcus Spears | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 11 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| James Hasty | 4 | 53 | 38 |
| Donnie Edwards | 2 | 45 | 42 |
| Marvcus Patton | 2 | 39 | 24 |
| Greg Wesley | 2 | 28 | 28 |
| Jerome Woods | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Lewis Bush | 1 | 33 | 33 |
| John Browning | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Pat Dennis | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Eric Hicks | 14.0 | 73.0 |
| Duane Clemons | 7.5 | 37.5 |
| Dan Williams | 7.5 | 34.5 |
| John Browning | 6.0 | 32.0 |
| Chester McGlockton | 4.0 | 13.0 |
| Tyrone Williams | 2.0 | 4.0 |
| Mike Maslowski | 2.0 | 5.0 |
| Jerome Woods | 2.0 | 15.0 |
| Lewis Bush | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| James Hasty | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| Donnie Edwards | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| Greg Wesley | 1.0 | 11.0 |
| Marvcus Patton | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| William Bartee | 1.0 | 8.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Todd Peterson | 15 | 20 | 75.0 | 42 | 25/25 | 100.0 | 70 |

# MIAMI DOLPHINS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jay Fiedler | 15 | 357 | 204 | 57.1 | 2402 | 14 | 14 | 74.5 |
| Damon Huard | 3 | 63 | 39 | 61.9 | 318 | 1 | 3 | 60.2 |
| Lamar Smith | 15 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.1 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lamar Smith | 15 | 309 | 1139 | 3.7 | 14 |
| Jay Fiedler | 15 | 54 | 267 | 4.9 | 1 |
| J.J. Johnson | 8 | 50 | 168 | 3.4 | 1 |
| Thurman Thomas | 9 | 28 | 136 | 4.9 | 0 |
| Autry Denson | 9 | 31 | 108 | 3.5 | 0 |
| Rob Konrad | 12 | 15 | 39 | 2.6 | 0 |
| Larry Izzo | 1 | 1 | 39 | 39.0 | 0 |
| Leslie Shepherd | 13 | 4 | 3 | 0.7 | 0 |
| Bert Emanuel | 10 | 3 | -2 | -0.7 | 0 |
| O.J. McDuffie | 9 | 1 | -3 | -3.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oronde Gadsden | 16 | 56 | 786 | 14.0 | 6 |
| Leslie Shepherd | 13 | 35 | 446 | 12.7 | 4 |
| Lamar Smith | 15 | 31 | 201 | 6.5 | 2 |
| Tony Martin | 10 | 26 | 393 | 15.1 | 0 |
| Thurman Thomas | 9 | 16 | 117 | 7.3 | 1 |
| Autry Denson | 9 | 14 | 105 | 7.5 | 0 |
| O.J. McDuffie | 9 | 14 | 143 | 10.2 | 0 |
| Rob Konrad | 12 | 14 | 83 | 5.9 | 0 |
| J.J. Johnson | 8 | 10 | 61 | 6.1 | 0 |
| Jed Weaver | 7 | 10 | 179 | 17.9 | 0 |
| Bert Emanuel | 10 | 7 | 132 | 18.9 | 1 |
| Hunter Goodwin | 8 | 6 | 36 | 6.0 | 1 |
| Jeff Ogden | 3 | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 0 |
| Deon Dyer | 1 | 2 | 14 | 7.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jeff Ogden | 19 | 323 | 17.0 | 81 | 1 |
| Leslie Shepherd | 15 | 164 | 10.9 | 32 | 0 |
| Ben Kelly | 5 | 31 | 6.2 | 10 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brock Marion | 22 | 513 | 23.3 | 47 | 0 |
| Autry Denson | 20 | 495 | 24.7 | 56 | 0 |
| Kevin Williams | 3 | 64 | 21.3 | 24 | 0 |
| Hunter Goodwin | 2 | 6 | 3.0 | 6 | 0 |
| J.J. Johnson | 2 | 26 | 13.0 | 26 | 0 |
| Leslie Shepherd | 1 | 14 | 14.0 | 14 | 0 |
| Jed Weaver | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 15 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brian Walker | 7 | 110 | 31 |
| Brock Marion | 5 | 72 | 24 |
| Sam Madison | 5 | 80 | 34 |
| Patrick Surtain | 5 | 55 | 43 |
| Jerry Wilson | 1 | 19 | 19 |
| Tim Bowens | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Jason Taylor | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Terrance Shaw | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Zach Thomas | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Greg Jeffries | 1 | 3 | 3 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Trace Armstrong | 16.5 | 96.5 |
| Jason Taylor | 14.5 | 92.0 |
| Tim Bowens | 2.5 | 13.5 |
| Kenny Mixon | 2.5 | 13.5 |
| Daryl Gardener | 2.5 | 9.5 |
| Lorenzo Bromell | 2.0 | 7.0 |
| Brian Walker | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Zach Thomas | 1.5 | 3.5 |
| Jermaine Haley | 1.5 | 11.5 |
| Patrick Surtain | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| Derrick Rodgers | 0.5 | 4.5 |
| Jerry Wilson | 0.5 | 4.5 |
| Rich Owens | 0.5 | 3.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Olindo Mare | 28 | 31 | 90.3 | 49 | 33/34 | 97.1 | 117 |

# MINNESOTA VIKINGS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Daunte Culpepper | 16 | 474 | 297 | 62.7 | 3937 | 33 | 16 | 98.0 |
| Bubby Brister | 2 | 20 | 10 | 50.0 | 82 | 0 | 1 | 40.0 |
| Mitch Berger | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -414.5 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Robert Smith | 16 | 295 | 1521 | 5.2 | 7 |
| Daunte Culpepper | 16 | 89 | 470 | 5.3 | 7 |
| Moe Williams | 12 | 23 | 67 | 2.9 | 0 |
| Jim Kleinsasser | 11 | 12 | 43 | 3.6 | 0 |
| Bubby Brister | 2 | 5 | 20 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Randy Moss | 16 | 3 | 5 | 1.7 | 0 |
| Troy Walters | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cris Carter | 16 | 96 | 1274 | 13.3 | 9 |
| Randy Moss | 16 | 77 | 1437 | 18.7 | 15 |
| Robert Smith | 16 | 36 | 348 | 9.7 | 3 |
| Johnny McWilliams | 9 | 22 | 180 | 8.2 | 3 |
| Chris Walsh | 12 | 18 | 191 | 10.6 | 0 |
| John Davis | 11 | 17 | 202 | 11.9 | 1 |
| Matthew Hatchette | 13 | 16 | 190 | 11.9 | 2 |
| Jim Kleinsasser | 11 | 10 | 98 | 9.8 | 0 |
| Andrew Jordan | 5 | 8 | 63 | 7.9 | 0 |
| Moe Williams | 12 | 4 | 31 | 7.7 | 0 |
| Troy Walters | 2 | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |
| Harold Morrow | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 0 |
| David Palmer | 1 | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Troy Walters | 15 | 217 | 14.5 | 63 | 0 |
| David Palmer | 10 | 33 | 3.3 | 16 | 0 |
| Chris Walsh | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 11 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Troy Walters | 30 | 692 | 23.1 | 38 | 0 |
| Tyrone Carter | 17 | 389 | 22.9 | 38 | 0 |
| Moe Williams | 10 | 214 | 21.4 | 34 | 0 |
| David Palmer | 6 | 120 | 20.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Chris Walsh | 2 | 9 | 4.5 | 6 | 0 |
| Harold Morrow | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Orlando Thomas | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 15 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kailee Wong | 2 | 28 | 14 |
| Robert Tate | 2 | 12 | 12 |
| Cris Dishman | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Robert Griffith | 1 | 25 | 25 |
| Keith Thibodeaux | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Orlando Thomas | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| John Randle | 8.0 | 56.0 |
| Talance Sawyer | 6.0 | 42.0 |
| Tony Williams | 4.0 | 22.0 |
| John Burrough | 2.0 | 15.0 |
| Chris Hovan | 2.0 | 15.0 |
| Bryce Paup | 2.0 | 14.0 |
| Ed McDaniel | 2.0 | 16.0 |
| Kailee Wong | 2.0 | 16.0 |
| Fred Robbins | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Robert Griffith | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Orlando Thomas | 1.0 | 12.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gary Anderson | 22 | 23 | 95.7 | 49 | 45/45 | 100.0 | 111 |

# NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Drew Bledsoe | 16 | 531 | 312 | 58.8 | 3291 | 17 | 13 | 77.3 |
| Michael Bishop | 7 | 9 | 3 | 33.3 | 80 | 1 | 1 | 57.6 |
| John Friesz | 1 | 21 | 11 | 52.4 | 66 | 0 | 1 | 39.0 |
| Lee Johnson | 3 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 160.4 |
| Tom Brady | 1 | 3 | 1 | 33.3 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 38.2 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Faulk | 15 | 164 | 570 | 3.5 | 4 |
| J.R. Redmond | 11 | 125 | 406 | 3.2 | 1 |
| Drew Bledsoe | 16 | 47 | 158 | 3.4 | 2 |
| Tony Carter | 15 | 37 | 90 | 2.4 | 2 |
| Patrick Pass | 4 | 18 | 58 | 3.2 | 0 |
| Troy Brown | 16 | 6 | 46 | 7.7 | 0 |
| Terry Glenn | 16 | 4 | 39 | 9.7 | 0 |
| Raymont Harris | 1 | 3 | 14 | 4.7 | 0 |
| Harold Shaw | 5 | 9 | 12 | 1.3 | 0 |
| Michael Bishop | 7 | 7 | -1 | -0.1 | 0 |
| Chris Floyd | 2 | 2 | -1 | -0.5 | 0 |
| Lee Johnson | 3 | 2 | -1 | -0.5 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Troy Brown | 16 | 83 | 944 | 11.4 | 4 |
| Terry Glenn | 16 | 79 | 963 | 12.2 | 6 |
| Kevin Faulk | 15 | 51 | 465 | 9.1 | 1 |
| Eric Bjornson | 8 | 20 | 152 | 7.6 | 2 |
| J.R. Redmond | 11 | 20 | 126 | 6.3 | 2 |
| Jermaine Wiggins | 4 | 16 | 203 | 12.7 | 1 |
| Rod Rutledge | 10 | 15 | 103 | 6.9 | 1 |
| Tony Simmons | 12 | 14 | 231 | 16.5 | 1 |
| Tony Carter | 15 | 9 | 73 | 8.1 | 0 |
| Curtis Jackson | 3 | 5 | 44 | 8.8 | 0 |
| Chris Calloway | 7 | 5 | 95 | 19.0 | 0 |
| Patrick Pass | 4 | 4 | 17 | 4.2 | 0 |
| Raymont Harris | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0.5 | 0 |
| Harold Shaw | 5 | 2 | 11 | 5.5 | 0 |
| Shockmain Davis | 5 | 2 | 12 | 6.0 | 0 |
| Chris Floyd | 2 | 1 | 21 | 21.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Troy Brown | 39 | 504 | 12.9 | 66 | 1 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Adam Vinatieri | 27 | 33 | 81.8 | 53 | 25/25 | 100.0 | 106 |

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Faulk | 6 | 58 | 9.7 | 35 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Faulk | 38 | 816 | 21.5 | 40 | 0 |
| Curtis Jackson | 13 | 323 | 24.8 | 47 | 0 |
| Tony Simmons | 4 | 82 | 20.5 | 39 | 0 |
| Troy Brown | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 9 | 0 |
| Tedy Bruschi | 2 | 13 | 6.5 | 7 | 0 |
| Shockmain Davis | 2 | 45 | 22.5 | 32 | 0 |
| J.R. Redmond | 1 | 25 | 25.0 | 25 | 0 |
| Tony Carter | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Bobby Hamilton | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ty Law | 2 | 32 | 32 |
| Tebucky Jones | 2 | 20 | 20 |
| Lawyer Milloy | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Otis Smith | 1 | 56 | 56 |
| Antonio Langham | 1 | 24 | 24 |
| Henry Thomas | 1 | 16 | 16 |
| Antwan Harris | 1 | 11 | 11 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Willie McGinest | 6.0 | 39.0 |
| Greg Spires | 6.0 | 41.5 |
| Henry Thomas | 4.0 | 22.5 |
| Chris Slade | 4.0 | 17.5 |
| Chad Eaton | 3.0 | 19.0 |
| Kato Serwanga | 2.0 | 14.0 |
| Bobby Hamilton | 1.5 | 4.5 |
| Tedy Bruschi | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Antwan Harris | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Ted Johnson | 0.5 | 5.0 |

# NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jeff Blake | 11 | 302 | 184 | 60.9 | 2025 | 13 | 9 | 82.7 |
| Aaron Brooks | 8 | 194 | 113 | 58.2 | 1514 | 9 | 6 | 85.7 |
| Ricky Williams | 10 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 227.1 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ricky Williams | 10 | 248 | 1000 | 4.0 | 8 |
| Jeff Blake | 11 | 57 | 243 | 4.3 | 1 |
| Terry Allen | 4 | 46 | 179 | 3.9 | 2 |
| Aaron Brooks | 8 | 41 | 170 | 4.1 | 2 |
| Jerald Moore | 5 | 37 | 156 | 4.2 | 1 |
| Chad Morton | 15 | 36 | 136 | 3.8 | 0 |
| Terrelle Smith | 12 | 29 | 131 | 4.5 | 0 |
| Fred McAfee | 2 | 2 | 37 | 18.5 | 0 |
| Joe Horn | 16 | 6 | 10 | 1.7 | 0 |
| Toby Gowin | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 |
| Brian Milne | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0.5 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Joe Horn | 16 | 94 | 1340 | 14.3 | 8 |
| Ricky Williams | 10 | 44 | 409 | 9.3 | 1 |
| Willie Jackson | 14 | 37 | 523 | 14.1 | 6 |
| Chad Morton | 15 | 30 | 213 | 7.1 | 0 |
| Andrew Glover | 14 | 21 | 281 | 13.4 | 4 |
| Keith Poole | 14 | 21 | 293 | 14.0 | 1 |
| Jake Reed | 7 | 16 | 206 | 12.9 | 0 |
| Terrelle Smith | 12 | 12 | 65 | 5.4 | 0 |
| Robert Wilson | 6 | 11 | 154 | 14.0 | 0 |
| Brian Milne | 3 | 5 | 33 | 6.6 | 1 |
| Lamont Hall | 6 | 5 | 33 | 6.6 | 1 |
| Kyle Turley | 1 | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 0 |
| Terry Allen | 4 | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chad Morton | 30 | 278 | 9.3 | 51 | 0 |
| Chris Canty | 9 | 45 | 5.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Robert Wilson | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Kevin Mathis | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 5 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chad Morton | 44 | 1029 | 23.4 | 68 | 0 |
| Fred McAfee | 10 | 251 | 25.1 | 52 | 0 |
| Kevin Mathis | 8 | 187 | 23.4 | 40 | 0 |
| Terry Allen | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 6 | 0 |
| Darrin Smith | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sammy Knight | 5 | 68 | 37 |
| Darren Perry | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Alex Molden | 3 | 24 | 24 |
| Chris Oldham | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Darrin Smith | 2 | 56 | 41 |
| Fred Weary | 2 | 27 | 27 |
| Kevin Mathis | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Darren Howard | 1 | 46 | 46 |
| Keith Mitchell | 1 | 40 | 40 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| La'Roi Glover | 17.0 | 112.0 |
| Joe Johnson | 12.0 | 52.0 |
| Darren Howard | 11.0 | 62.0 |
| Keith Mitchell | 6.5 | 37.5 |
| William Whitehead | 5.5 | 32.5 |
| Norman Hand | 3.0 | 21.0 |
| Darrin Smith | 2.0 | 13.0 |
| Mark Fields | 2.0 | 11.0 |
| Chris Oldham | 2.0 | 11.0 |
| Fred Weary | 2.0 | 11.0 |
| Sammy Knight | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Phil Clarke | 1.0 | 7.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Doug Brien | 23 | 29 | 79.3 | 48 | 37/37 | 100.0 | 106 |

# NEW YORK GIANTS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kerry Collins | 16 | 529 | 311 | 58.8 | 3610 | 22 | 13 | 83.1 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tiki Barber | 16 | 213 | 1006 | 4.7 | 8 |
| Ron Dayne | 16 | 228 | 770 | 3.4 | 5 |
| Amani Toomer | 16 | 5 | 91 | 18.2 | 1 |
| Kerry Collins | 16 | 41 | 65 | 1.6 | 1 |
| Greg Comella | 16 | 10 | 45 | 4.5 | 0 |
| Ike Hilliard | 14 | 3 | 19 | 6.3 | 0 |
| Ron Dixon | 11 | 2 | 13 | 6.5 | 0 |
| Joe Montgomery | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 1 |
| Jason Garrett | 2 | 4 | -4 | -1.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amani Toomer | 16 | 78 | 1094 | 14.0 | 7 |
| Tiki Barber | 16 | 70 | 719 | 10.3 | 1 |
| Ike Hilliard | 14 | 55 | 787 | 14.3 | 8 |
| Greg Comella | 16 | 36 | 274 | 7.6 | 0 |
| Pete Mitchell | 13 | 25 | 245 | 9.8 | 1 |
| Joe Jurevicius | 12 | 24 | 272 | 11.3 | 1 |
| Daniel Campbell | 11 | 8 | 46 | 5.7 | 3 |
| Ron Dixon | 11 | 6 | 92 | 15.3 | 1 |
| Howard Cross | 7 | 4 | 30 | 7.5 | 0 |
| Ron Dayne | 16 | 3 | 11 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Thabiti Davis | 3 | 2 | 40 | 20.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tiki Barber | 39 | 332 | 8.5 | 31 | 0 |
| Greg Comella | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ron Dixon | 31 | 658 | 21.2 | 44 | 0 |
| Bashir Levingston | 7 | 153 | 21.9 | 43 | 0 |
| Omar Stoutmire | 6 | 140 | 23.3 | 47 | 0 |
| Reggie Stephens | 3 | 69 | 23.0 | 40 | 0 |
| Greg Comella | 2 | 20 | 10.0 | 11 | 0 |
| Jason Sehorn | 2 | 31 | 15.5 | 38 | 1 |
| Tiki Barber | 1 | 28 | 28.0 | 28 | 0 |
| Joe Jurevicius | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 3 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Emmanuel McDaniel | 6 | 30 | 17 |
| Reggie Stephens | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Shaun Williams | 3 | 52 | 40 |
| Ryan Phillips | 2 | 22 | 12 |
| Jason Sehorn | 2 | 32 | 32 |
| Sam Garnes | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Micheal Barrow | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Dave Thomas | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Jessie Armstead | 1 | -2 | -2 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Keith Hamilton | 10.0 | 59.0 |
| Michael Strahan | 9.5 | 70.5 |
| Cornelius Griffin | 5.0 | 28.0 |
| Jessie Armstead | 5.0 | 34.5 |
| Micheal Barrow | 3.5 | 17.5 |
| Cedric Jones | 3.5 | 20.5 |
| Pete Monty | 2.0 | 17.0 |
| Ryan Phillips | 1.5 | 7.0 |
| Emmanuel McDaniel | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| Christian Peter | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Sam Garnes | 1.0 | 6.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brad Daluiso | 17 | 23 | 73.9 | 46 | 34/34 | 100.0 | 85 |
| Jaret Holmes | 2 | 2 | 100.0 | 34 | 3/3 | 100.0 | 9 |

# NEW YORK JETS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vinny Testaverde | 16 | 590 | 328 | 55.6 | 3732 | 21 | 25 | 69.0 |
| Ray Lucas | 6 | 41 | 21 | 51.2 | 206 | 0 | 4 | 26.1 |
| Chad Pennington | 1 | 5 | 2 | 40.0 | 67 | 1 | 0 | 127.1 |
| Curtis Martin | 16 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 158.3 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Curtis Martin | 16 | 316 | 1204 | 3.8 | 9 |
| Bernie Parmalee | 4 | 27 | 87 | 3.2 | 2 |
| Richie Anderson | 16 | 27 | 63 | 2.3 | 0 |
| Ray Lucas | 6 | 6 | 42 | 7.0 | 0 |
| Vinny Testaverde | 16 | 25 | 32 | 1.3 | 0 |
| Dedric Ward | 16 | 4 | 23 | 5.7 | 0 |
| Laveranues Coles | 10 | 2 | 15 | 7.5 | 0 |
| Dwight Stone | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Mo Lewis | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Windrell Hayes | 7 | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Jerald Sowell | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Chad Pennington | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Wayne Chrebet | 16 | 3 | -3 | -1.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Richie Anderson | 16 | 88 | 853 | 9.7 | 2 |
| Curtis Martin | 16 | 70 | 508 | 7.3 | 2 |
| Wayne Chrebet | 16 | 69 | 937 | 13.6 | 8 |
| Dedric Ward | 16 | 54 | 801 | 14.8 | 3 |
| Laveranues Coles | 10 | 22 | 370 | 16.8 | 1 |
| Anthony Becht | 10 | 16 | 144 | 9.0 | 2 |
| Bernie Parmalee | 4 | 9 | 66 | 7.3 | 0 |
| Windrell Hayes | 7 | 6 | 126 | 21.0 | 0 |
| Jerald Sowell | 6 | 6 | 84 | 14.0 | 0 |
| Fred Baxter | 4 | 4 | 22 | 5.5 | 2 |
| Vincent Brisby | 3 | 4 | 60 | 15.0 | 0 |
| Jermaine Wiggins | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2.0 | 1 |
| Jumbo Elliott | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 1 |
| Marcus Coleman | 2 | 1 | 45 | 45.0 | 1 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dedric Ward | 27 | 214 | 7.9 | 19 | 0 |
| Leon Johnson | 10 | 62 | 6.2 | 16 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dwight Stone | 25 | 555 | 22.2 | 43 | 0 |
| Kevin Williams | 21 | 551 | 26.2 | 97 | 1 |
| Laveranues Coles | 11 | 207 | 18.8 | 24 | 0 |
| Leon Johnson | 6 | 117 | 19.5 | 27 | 0 |
| Aaron Glenn | 3 | 51 | 17.0 | 22 | 0 |
| Anthony Becht | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Damon Dunn | 2 | 35 | 17.5 | 21 | 0 |
| Fred Baxter | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Jerald Sowell | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 9 | 0 |
| Tony Scott | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jermaine Wiggins | 1 | 12 | 12.0 | 12 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Victor Green | 6 | 144 | 43 |
| Marcus Coleman | 4 | 6 | 7 |
| Aaron Glenn | 4 | 34 | 34 |
| Tony Scott | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mo Lewis | 1 | 23 | 23 |
| Chris Hayes | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Shaun Ellis | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Nick Ferguson | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Scott Frost | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| James Farrior | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Mo Lewis | 10.0 | 61.0 |
| Shaun Ellis | 8.5 | 39.0 |
| Bryan Cox | 6.0 | 32.0 |
| John Abraham | 4.5 | 34.0 |
| Roman Phifer | 4.0 | 33.0 |
| Rick Lyle | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| Marvin Jones | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Shane Burton | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| Jason Ferguson | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| Scott Frost | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| James Farrior | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Jason Wiltz | 1.0 | 0.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| John Hall | 21 | 32 | 65.6 | 51 | 30/30 | 100.0 | 93 |
| Brett Conway | 2 | 2 | 100.0 | 40 | 2/2 | 100.0 | 8 |

# OAKLAND RAIDERS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rich Gannon | 16 | 473 | 284 | 60.0 | 3430 | 28 | 11 | 92.4 |
| Bobby Hoying | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tyrone Wheatley | 14 | 232 | 1046 | 4.5 | 9 |
| Rich Gannon | 16 | 89 | 529 | 5.9 | 4 |
| Napoleon Kaufman | 14 | 93 | 499 | 5.4 | 0 |
| Randy Jordan | 15 | 46 | 213 | 4.6 | 3 |
| Zack Crockett | 11 | 43 | 130 | 3.0 | 7 |
| Terry Kirby | 1 | 11 | 51 | 4.6 | 0 |
| Tim Brown | 16 | 3 | 12 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Bobby Hoying | 1 | 2 | -3 | -1.5 | 0 |
| Rickey Dudley | 15 | 1 | -7 | -7.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tim Brown | 16 | 76 | 1128 | 14.8 | 11 |
| Andre Rison | 16 | 41 | 606 | 14.8 | 6 |
| Rickey Dudley | 15 | 29 | 350 | 12.1 | 4 |
| Randy Jordan | 15 | 27 | 299 | 11.1 | 1 |
| Jon Ritchie | 11 | 26 | 173 | 6.7 | 0 |
| James Jett | 15 | 20 | 356 | 17.8 | 2 |
| Tyrone Wheatley | 14 | 20 | 156 | 7.8 | 1 |
| Jeremy Brigham | 11 | 13 | 107 | 8.2 | 2 |
| Napoleon Kaufman | 14 | 13 | 127 | 9.8 | 1 |
| Zack Crockett | 11 | 10 | 62 | 6.2 | 0 |
| David Dunn | 6 | 4 | 33 | 8.2 | 0 |
| Terry Kirby | 1 | 3 | 19 | 6.3 | 0 |
| Charles Woodson | 2 | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Jerry Porter | 2 | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Darrien Gordon | 29 | 258 | 8.9 | 36 | 0 |
| David Dunn | 8 | 99 | 12.4 | 25 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| David Dunn | 44 | 1073 | 24.4 | 88 | 1 |
| Napoleon Kaufman | 9 | 198 | 22.0 | 31 | 0 |
| Calvin Branch | 2 | 48 | 24.0 | 24 | 0 |
| Darrien Gordon | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Eric Allen | 6 | 145 | 50 |
| William Thomas | 6 | 68 | 46 |
| Charles Woodson | 4 | 36 | 23 |
| Tory James | 2 | 25 | 25 |
| Marquez Pope | 2 | 25 | 25 |
| Josh Taves | 1 | 24 | 24 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Grady Jackson | 8.0 | 58.0 |
| Roderick Coleman | 6.0 | 45.0 |
| Regan Upshaw | 6.0 | 37.0 |
| Tony Bryant | 5.5 | 27.0 |
| Lance Johnstone | 3.5 | 28.5 |
| Josh Taves | 3.0 | 17.0 |
| Darrell Russell | 3.0 | 19.5 |
| Greg Biekert | 2.0 | 7.0 |
| Elijah Alexander | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| William Thomas | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| Eric Allen | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Anthony Dorsett | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Marquez Pope | 1.0 | 9.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sebastian Janikowski | 22 | 32 | 68.7 | 54 | 46/46 | 100.0 | 112 |
| Shane Lechler | 0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0 | 7/7 | 100.0 | 7 |
| Brett Conway | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 19 | 3/3 | 100.0 | 6 |

# PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donovan McNabb | 16 | 569 | 330 | 58.0 | 3365 | 21 | 13 | 77.8 |
| Brian Mitchell | 13 | 4 | 1 | 25.0 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 49.0 |
| Torrance Small | 14 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Koy Detmer | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.0 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donovan McNabb | 16 | 86 | 629 | 7.3 | 6 |
| Duce Staley | 5 | 79 | 344 | 4.4 | 1 |
| Darnell Autry | 11 | 112 | 334 | 3.0 | 3 |
| Stanley Pritchett | 13 | 58 | 225 | 3.9 | 1 |
| Brian Mitchell | 13 | 25 | 187 | 7.5 | 2 |
| Cecil Martin | 16 | 13 | 77 | 5.9 | 0 |
| Chris Warren | 1 | 15 | 42 | 2.8 | 0 |
| Charles Johnson | 16 | 5 | 18 | 3.6 | 0 |
| David Akers | 1 | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 0 |
| Koy Detmer | 2 | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Amp Lee | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Torrance Small | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chad Lewis | 16 | 69 | 735 | 10.7 | 3 |
| Charles Johnson | 16 | 56 | 642 | 11.5 | 7 |
| Torrance Small | 14 | 40 | 569 | 14.2 | 3 |
| Cecil Martin | 16 | 31 | 219 | 7.1 | 0 |
| Duce Staley | 5 | 25 | 201 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Stanley Pritchett | 13 | 25 | 193 | 7.7 | 0 |
| Darnell Autry | 11 | 24 | 275 | 11.5 | 1 |
| Brian Mitchell | 13 | 13 | 89 | 6.8 | 1 |
| Luther Broughton | 9 | 12 | 104 | 8.7 | 0 |
| Jeff Thomason | 8 | 10 | 46 | 4.6 | 5 |
| Todd Pinkston | 15 | 10 | 181 | 18.1 | 0 |
| Na Brown | 12 | 9 | 80 | 8.9 | 1 |
| Donovan McNabb | 16 | 2 | 5 | 2.5 | 0 |
| Bubba Miller | 1 | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 0 |
| Alex Van Dyke | 2 | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Dameane Douglas | 2 | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 0 |
| Amp Lee | 3 | 1 | 20 | 20.0 | 0 |
| Chris Warren | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brian Mitchell | 32 | 335 | 10.5 | 72 | |
| Jason Bostic | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brian Mitchell | 47 | 1124 | 23.9 | 89 | 1 |
| Dameane Douglas | 2 | 50 | 25.0 | 41 | 0 |
| Luther Broughton | 1 | 20 | 20.0 | 20 | 0 |
| Brian Dawkins | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Stanley Pritchett | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 15 | 0 |
| Jeff Thomason | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Brandon Whiting | 1 | 18 | 18.0 | 18 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Troy Vincent | 5 | 34 | 17 |
| Brian Dawkins | 4 | 62 | 32 |
| Bobby Taylor | 3 | 64 | 38 |
| Damon Moore | 2 | 24 | 20 |
| Carlos Emmons | 2 | 8 | 8 |
| Mike Caldwell | 1 | 26 | 26 |
| Jeremiah Trotter | 1 | 27 | 27 |
| Hugh Douglas | 1 | 9 | 9 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Hugh Douglas | 15.0 | 89.5 |
| Corey Simon | 9.5 | 58.0 |
| Mike Mamula | 5.5 | 36.0 |
| Hollis Thomas | 4.0 | 22.0 |
| Brandon Whiting | 3.5 | 20.0 |
| Paul Grasmanis | 3.5 | 17.0 |
| Jeremiah Trotter | 3.0 | 9.0 |
| Brian Dawkins | 2.0 | 18.0 |
| Barry Gardner | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Troy Vincent | 1.0 | 5.0 |
| James Darling | 0.5 | 5.0 |
| Carlos Emmons | 0.5 | 2.5 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| David Akers | 29 | 33 | 87.9 | 51 | 34/36 | 94.4 | 121 |

# PITTSBURGH STEELERS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kordell Stewart | 15 | 289 | 151 | 52.2 | 1860 | 11 | 8 | 73.6 |
| Kent Graham | 8 | 148 | 66 | 44.6 | 878 | 1 | 1 | 63.4 |
| Jerome Bettis | 16 | 2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.0 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jerome Bettis | 16 | 355 | 1341 | 3.8 | 8 |
| Kordell Stewart | 15 | 78 | 436 | 5.6 | 7 |
| Richard Huntley | 13 | 46 | 215 | 4.7 | 3 |
| Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala | 6 | 21 | 149 | 7.1 | 1 |
| Hines Ward | 16 | 4 | 53 | 13.2 | 0 |
| Dan Kreider | 6 | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 0 |
| Amos Zereoue | 2 | 6 | 14 | 2.3 | 0 |
| Kent Graham | 8 | 8 | 7 | 0.9 | 0 |
| Jon Witman | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1.7 | 0 |
| Troy Edwards | 14 | 3 | 4 | 1.3 | 0 |
| Josh Miller | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hines Ward | 16 | 48 | 672 | 14.0 | 4 |
| Bobby Shaw | 15 | 40 | 672 | 16.8 | 4 |
| Plaxico Burress | 11 | 22 | 273 | 12.4 | 0 |
| Courtney Hawkins | 9 | 19 | 238 | 12.5 | 1 |
| Troy Edwards | 14 | 18 | 215 | 11.9 | 0 |
| Mark Bruener | 16 | 17 | 192 | 11.3 | 3 |
| Jerome Bettis | 16 | 13 | 97 | 7.5 | 0 |
| Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala | 6 | 11 | 107 | 9.7 | 0 |
| Richard Huntley | 13 | 10 | 91 | 9.1 | 0 |
| Jon Witman | 5 | 5 | 33 | 6.6 | 0 |
| Dan Kreider | 6 | 5 | 42 | 8.4 | 0 |
| Matt Cushing | 4 | 4 | 17 | 4.2 | 0 |
| Corey Geason | 4 | 3 | 66 | 22.0 | 0 |
| Will Blackwell | 1 | 2 | 23 | 11.5 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hank Poteat | 36 | 467 | 13.0 | 54 | 1 |
| Courtney Hawkins | 4 | 15 | 3.7 | 9 | 0 |
| Bobby Shaw | 2 | 17 | 8.5 | 10 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hank Poteat | 24 | 465 | 19.4 | 31 | 0 |
| Troy Edwards | 15 | 298 | 19.9 | 37 | 0 |
| Will Blackwell | 10 | 281 | 28.1 | 98 | 1 |
| Hines Ward | 7 | 186 | 26.6 | 57 | 0 |
| Dan Kreider | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bobby Shaw | 1 | -8 | -8.0 | -8 | 0 |
| Jerame Tuman | 1 | -1 | -1.0 | -1 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dewayne Washington | 5 | 59 | 31 |
| Chad Scott | 5 | 49 | 33 |
| Brent Alexander | 3 | 31 | 15 |
| Lethon Flowers | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Joey Porter | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Nikia Codie | 1 | 14 | 14 |
| Levon Kirkland | 1 | 1 | 1 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Jason Gildon | 13.5 | 84.5 |
| Joey Porter | 10.5 | 59.5 |
| Aaron Smith | 4.0 | 15.0 |
| Deshea Townsend | 3.5 | 22.5 |
| Brent Alexander | 1.5 | 13.5 |
| Mike Vrabel | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| Kimo von Oelhoffen | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| Lethon Flowers | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Earl Holmes | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| Ainsley Battles | 1.0 | 7.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kris Brown | 25 | 30 | 83.3 | 52 | 32/33 | 97.0 | 107 |

# SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ryan Leaf | 11 | 322 | 161 | 50.0 | 1883 | 11 | 18 | 56.2 |
| Jim Harbaugh | 7 | 202 | 123 | 60.9 | 1416 | 8 | 10 | 74.6 |
| Moses Moreno | 6 | 53 | 27 | 50.9 | 241 | 0 | 2 | 47.8 |
| Robert Chancey | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Terrell Fletcher | 16 | 116 | 384 | 3.3 | 3 |
| Jermaine Fazande | 11 | 119 | 368 | 3.1 | 2 |
| Robert Chancey | 3 | 42 | 141 | 3.4 | 2 |
| Ryan Leaf | 11 | 28 | 54 | 1.9 | 0 |
| Curtis Conway | 14 | 3 | 31 | 10.3 | 0 |
| Kenny Bynum | 2 | 7 | 26 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Jim Harbaugh | 7 | 16 | 24 | 1.5 | 0 |
| Moses Moreno | 6 | 5 | 20 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Fred McCrary | 13 | 7 | 8 | 1.1 | 0 |
| Ronney Jenkins | 5 | 8 | 6 | 0.7 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Freddie Jones | 16 | 71 | 766 | 10.8 | 5 |
| Jeff Graham | 13 | 55 | 907 | 16.5 | 4 |
| Curtis Conway | 14 | 53 | 712 | 13.4 | 5 |
| Terrell Fletcher | 16 | 48 | 355 | 7.4 | 1 |
| Reggie Jones | 8 | 22 | 253 | 11.5 | 0 |
| Fred McCrary | 13 | 18 | 141 | 7.8 | 2 |
| Jermaine Fazande | 11 | 16 | 104 | 6.5 | 0 |
| Trevor Gaylor | 10 | 13 | 182 | 14.0 | 1 |
| Steve Heiden | 7 | 6 | 32 | 5.3 | 1 |
| Mikhael Ricks | 3 | 3 | 35 | 11.7 | 0 |
| Kenny Bynum | 2 | 2 | 13 | 6.5 | 0 |
| Robert Chancey | 3 | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |
| Nate Jacquet | 3 | 1 | 25 | 25.0 | 0 |
| Ronney Jenkins | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Reginald Davis | 1 | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nate Jacquet | 30 | 211 | 7.0 | 35 | 0 |
| Reggie Jones | 9 | 53 | 5.9 | 17 | 0 |
| Jeff Graham | 3 | 7 | 2.3 | 7 | 0 |
| Mike Dumas | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 0 |
| DeRon Jenkins | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ronney Jenkins | 67 | 1531 | 22.9 | 93 | 1 |
| Kenny Bynum | 13 | 242 | 18.6 | 39 | 0 |
| DeMingo Graham | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kendyl Jacox | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 8 | 0 |
| Reggie Jones | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 11 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rodney Harrison | 6 | 97 | 63 |
| Junior Seau | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Rogers Beckett | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Orlando Ruff | 1 | 18 | 18 |
| DeRon Jenkins | 1 | 16 | 16 |
| Darryll Lewis | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| Fakhir Brown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Scott Turner | 1 | 75 | 75 |
| Gerald Dixon | 1 | 36 | 36 |
| Mike Dumas | 1 | 56 | 56 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| John Parrella | 7.0 | 45.0 |
| Rodney Harrison | 6.0 | 48.0 |
| Darren Mickell | 6.0 | 41.0 |
| Gerald Dixon | 5.0 | 35.0 |
| Al Fontenot | 4.0 | 25.0 |
| Junior Seau | 3.5 | 10.5 |
| Adrian Dingle | 2.5 | 14.5 |
| Jamal Williams | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Reggie Rusk | 1.0 | 5.0 |
| Darryll Lewis | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Mike Dumas | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| Rogers Beckett | 1.0 | 1.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| John Carney | 18 | 25 | 72.0 | 54 | 27/27 | 100.0 | 81 |

# SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jeff Garcia | 16 | 561 | 355 | 63.3 | 4278 | 31 | 10 | 97.6 |
| Rick Mirer | 1 | 20 | 10 | 50.0 | 126 | 1 | 0 | 86.7 |
| Jerry Rice | 16 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |
| Tim Rattay | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | -4 | 0 | 0 | 79.2 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Charlie Garner | 16 | 258 | 1142 | 4.4 | 7 |
| Jeff Garcia | 16 | 72 | 414 | 5.7 | 4 |
| Fred Beasley | 15 | 50 | 147 | 2.9 | 3 |
| Paul Smith | 8 | 18 | 72 | 4.0 | 0 |
| Terrell Owens | 14 | 3 | 11 | 3.7 | 0 |
| Jonas Lewis | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |
| J.J. Stokes | 16 | 1 | 6 | 6.0 | 0 |
| Terry Jackson | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1.2 | 1 |
| Tai Streets | 13 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Rick Mirer | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Travis Jervey | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Tim Rattay | 1 | 2 | -1 | -0.5 | 0 |
| Jerry Rice | 16 | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Terrell Owens | 14 | 97 | 1451 | 15.0 | 13 |
| Jerry Rice | 16 | 75 | 805 | 10.7 | 7 |
| Charlie Garner | 16 | 68 | 647 | 9.5 | 3 |
| Greg Clark | 15 | 38 | 342 | 9.0 | 2 |
| Fred Beasley | 15 | 31 | 233 | 7.5 | 3 |
| J.J. Stokes | 16 | 30 | 524 | 17.5 | 3 |
| Tai Streets | 13 | 19 | 287 | 15.1 | 0 |
| Terry Jackson | 7 | 5 | 48 | 9.6 | 1 |
| Paul Smith | 8 | 2 | 55 | 27.5 | 0 |
| Justin Swift | 2 | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Williams | 26 | 220 | 8.5 | 25 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Williams | 30 | 536 | 17.9 | 33 | 0 |
| Jonas Lewis | 9 | 168 | 18.7 | 26 | 0 |
| Paul Smith | 9 | 167 | 18.6 | 28 | 0 |
| Travis Jervey | 8 | 209 | 26.1 | 68 | 0 |
| Tai Streets | 8 | 180 | 22.5 | 37 | 0 |
| Terry Jackson | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 9 | 0 |
| John Milem | 1 | 13 | 13.0 | 13 | 0 |
| Chike Okeafor | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Ahmed Plummer | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Zack Bronson | 3 | 75 | 43 |
| Monty Montgomery | 3 | 68 | 46 |
| Julian Peterson | 2 | 33 | 31 |
| Jason Webster | 2 | 78 | 70 |
| Pierson Prioleau | 1 | 13 | 13 |
| Winfred Tubbs | 1 | 11 | 11 |
| John Keith | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Bryant Young | 9.5 | 77.5 |
| Brentson Buckner | 7.0 | 46.5 |
| Julian Peterson | 4.0 | 33.0 |
| Cedric Killings | 3.0 | 24.0 |
| John Engelberger | 3.0 | 22.0 |
| Anthony Pleasant | 2.0 | 6.0 |
| Ronnie Heard | 2.0 | 12.0 |
| Chike Okeafor | 2.0 | 19.5 |
| Winfred Tubbs | 2.0 | 9.0 |
| John Keith | 1.0 | 5.0 |
| Artie Ulmer | 1.0 | 5.0 |
| Lance Schulters | 0.5 | 3.0 |
| Jeff Posey | 0.5 | 4.5 |
| Monty Montgomery | 0.5 | 3.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wade Richey | 15 | 22 | 68.2 | 47 | 43/45 | 95.6 | 88 |

# SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jon Kitna | 15 | 418 | 259 | 62.0 | 2658 | 18 | 19 | 75.6 |
| Brock Huard | 5 | 87 | 49 | 56.3 | 540 | 3 | 2 | 76.8 |
| Travis Brown | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |
| Jeff Feagles | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ricky Watters | 16 | 278 | 1242 | 4.5 | 7 |
| Shaun Alexander | 16 | 64 | 313 | 4.9 | 2 |
| Jon Kitna | 15 | 48 | 127 | 2.6 | 1 |
| Brock Huard | 5 | 5 | 29 | 5.8 | 0 |
| Mack Strong | 15 | 3 | 9 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Reggie Brown | 3 | 3 | 6 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Darrell Jackson | 16 | 1 | -1 | -1.0 | 0 |
| James Williams | 7 | 1 | -5 | -5.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sean Dawkins | 16 | 63 | 731 | 11.6 | 5 |
| Ricky Watters | 16 | 63 | 613 | 9.7 | 2 |
| Darrell Jackson | 16 | 53 | 713 | 13.5 | 6 |
| Derrick Mayes | 11 | 29 | 264 | 9.1 | 1 |
| Christian Fauria | 13 | 28 | 237 | 8.5 | 2 |
| Itula Mili | 15 | 28 | 288 | 10.3 | 3 |
| Mack Strong | 15 | 23 | 141 | 6.1 | 1 |
| James Williams | 7 | 8 | 99 | 12.4 | 0 |
| Karsten Bailey | 6 | 6 | 62 | 10.3 | 1 |
| Shaun Alexander | 16 | 5 | 41 | 8.2 | 0 |
| Reggie Brown | 3 | 2 | 9 | 4.5 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Charlie Rogers | 26 | 363 | 14.0 | 43 | 0 |
| Chris Canty | 4 | 21 | 5.2 | 8 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Charlie Rogers | 66 | 1629 | 24.7 | 81 | 1 |
| Fabien Bownes | 3 | 83 | 27.7 | 38 | 0 |
| Kerry Joseph | 3 | 71 | 23.7 | 34 | 0 |
| James Williams | 3 | 76 | 25.3 | 40 | 0 |
| Reggie Brown | 2 | 19 | 9.5 | 19 | 0 |
| Christian Fauria | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 9 | 0 |
| Itula Mili | 1 | 19 | 19.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Mack Strong | 1 | 26 | 26.0 | 26 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Willie Williams | 4 | 74 | 69 |
| Jay Bellamy | 4 | 132 | 84 |
| Anthony Simmons | 2 | 15 | 8 |
| Shawn Springs | 2 | 8 | 8 |
| Marcus Bell | 1 | 30 | 30 |
| Cortez Kennedy | 1 | 14 | 14 |
| Chad Brown | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Isaiah Kacyvenski | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| George Koonce | 1 | 27 | 27 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Lamar King | 6.0 | 38.0 |
| Chad Brown | 6.0 | 20.0 |
| Michael Sinclair | 4.5 | 30.5 |
| Anthony Simmons | 4.0 | 21.0 |
| Jay Bellamy | 2.0 | 13.0 |
| George Koonce | 1.5 | 11.5 |
| Cortez Kennedy | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Willie Williams | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| Antonio Cochran | 0.5 | 1.0 |
| Matt LaBounty | 0.5 | 1.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rian Lindell | 15 | 17 | 88.2 | 52 | 25/25 | 100.0 | 70 |

# ST. LOUIS RAMS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kurt Warner | 11 | 347 | 235 | 67.7 | 3429 | 21 | 18 | 98.3 |
| Trent Green | 8 | 240 | 145 | 60.4 | 2063 | 16 | 5 | 101.8 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marshall Faulk | 14 | 253 | 1359 | 5.4 | 18 |
| Justin Watson | 9 | 54 | 249 | 4.6 | 4 |
| Robert Holcombe | 13 | 21 | 70 | 3.3 | 3 |
| Trent Green | 8 | 20 | 69 | 3.4 | 1 |
| Ernie Conwell | 8 | 2 | 23 | 11.5 | 0 |
| Az-Zahir Hakim | 15 | 5 | 19 | 3.8 | 0 |
| Kurt Warner | 11 | 18 | 17 | 0.9 | 0 |
| Isaac Bruce | 16 | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 0 |
| Torry Holt | 16 | 2 | 7 | 3.5 | 0 |
| Trung Canidate | 2 | 3 | 6 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Tony Horne | 6 | 2 | 6 | 3.0 | 0 |
| Keith Lyle | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 0 |
| James Hodgins | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Isaac Bruce | 16 | 87 | 1471 | 16.9 | 9 |
| Torry Holt | 16 | 82 | 1635 | 19.9 | 6 |
| Marshall Faulk | 14 | 81 | 830 | 10.2 | 8 |
| Az-Zahir Hakim | 15 | 53 | 734 | 13.8 | 4 |
| Ricky Proehl | 12 | 31 | 441 | 14.2 | 4 |
| Roland Williams | 13 | 11 | 102 | 9.3 | 3 |
| Justin Watson | 9 | 10 | 56 | 5.6 | 0 |
| Robert Holcombe | 13 | 8 | 90 | 11.2 | 1 |
| Jeff Robinson | 5 | 5 | 52 | 10.4 | 0 |
| Ernie Conwell | 8 | 5 | 40 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Tony Horne | 6 | 4 | 32 | 8.0 | 2 |
| James Hodgins | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2.5 | 0 |
| Trung Canidate | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Az-Zahir Hakim | 32 | 489 | 15.3 | 86 | 1 |
| Tony Horne | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Todd Lyght | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Dexter McCleon | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tony Horne | 57 | 1379 | 24.2 | 103 | 1 |
| Darrius Blevins | 9 | 173 | 19.2 | 26 | 0 |
| Dre' Bly | 9 | 163 | 18.1 | 36 | 0 |
| Marshall Faulk | 1 | 18 | 18.0 | 18 | 0 |
| London Fletcher | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Az-Zahir Hakim | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |
| Sean Moran | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Ricky Proehl | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dexter McCleon | 8 | 28 | 23 |
| London Fletcher | 4 | 33 | 12 |
| Dre' Bly | 3 | 44 | 22 |
| Todd Lyght | 2 | 21 | 21 |
| Keith Lyle | 1 | 9 | 9 |
| Jacoby Shepherd | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Grant Wistrom | 11.0 | 67.0 |
| Kevin Carter | 10.5 | 53.0 |
| London Fletcher | 5.5 | 26.5 |
| Leonard Little | 5.0 | 23.5 |
| Ray Agnew | 4.0 | 12.0 |
| Dexter McCleon | 2.0 | 28.0 |
| Mike Jones | 2.0 | 9.0 |
| Jeff Zgonina | 2.0 | 5.0 |
| Sean Moran | 2.0 | 14.0 |
| Dre' Bly | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| D'Marco Farr | 1.0 | 11.0 |
| Devin Bush | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| Todd Collins | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Lorenzo Styles | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| Todd Lyght | 1.0 | 7.0 |
| Nate Hobgood-Chittick | 1.0 | 7.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jeff Wilkins | 17 | 17 | 100.0 | 51 | 38/38 | 100.0 | 89 |
| Pete Stoyanovich | 5 | 9 | 55.6 | 48 | 26/26 | 100.0 | 41 |
| Jeff Hall | 4 | 5 | 80.0 | 50 | 9/9 | 100.0 | 21 |

# TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shaun King | 16 | 428 | 233 | 54.4 | 2769 | 18 | 13 | 75.8 |
| Mark Royals | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 118.8 |
| Eric Zeier | 3 | 3 | 3 | 100.0 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 93.1 |
| Mike Alstott | 13 | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39.6 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Warrick Dunn | 16 | 248 | 1133 | 4.6 | 8 |
| Mike Alstott | 13 | 131 | 465 | 3.5 | 5 |
| Shaun King | 16 | 73 | 353 | 4.8 | 5 |
| Rabih Abdullah | 4 | 16 | 70 | 4.4 | 0 |
| Aaron Stecker | 5 | 12 | 31 | 2.6 | 0 |
| Jacquez Green | 16 | 5 | 13 | 2.6 | 0 |
| Keyshawn Johnson | 16 | 2 | 5 | 2.5 | 0 |
| Joe Hamilton | 1 | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | 0 |
| Eric Zeier | 3 | 2 | -2 | -1.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Keyshawn Johnson | 16 | 71 | 874 | 12.3 | 8 |
| Jacquez Green | 16 | 51 | 773 | 15.2 | 1 |
| Warrick Dunn | 16 | 44 | 422 | 9.6 | 1 |
| Dave Moore | 15 | 29 | 288 | 9.9 | 3 |
| Reidel Anthony | 15 | 15 | 232 | 15.5 | 4 |
| Mike Alstott | 13 | 13 | 93 | 7.2 | 0 |
| Patrick Hape | 9 | 6 | 39 | 6.5 | 0 |
| Karl Williams | 2 | 2 | 35 | 17.5 | 0 |
| Rabih Abdullah | 4 | 2 | 14 | 7.0 | 0 |
| Todd Yoder | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Damien Robinson | 1 | 1 | 36 | 36.0 | 0 |
| Aaron Stecker | 5 | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 0 |
| Randall McDaniel | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 1 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Karl Williams | 31 | 286 | 9.2 | 73 | 1 |
| Andre Hastings | 5 | 50 | 10.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Jacquez Green | 2 | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0 |
| Todd Yoder | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Karl Williams | 19 | 453 | 23.8 | 41 | 0 |
| Aaron Stecker | 29 | 663 | 22.9 | 48 | 0 |
| Reidel Anthony | 3 | 88 | 29.3 | 45 | 0 |
| Frank Murphy | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 19 | 0 |
| Rabih Abdullah | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 16 | 0 |
| Jacquez Green | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 11 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Donnie Abraham | 7 | 82 | 23 |
| Damien Robinson | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| Jamie Duncan | 4 | 55 | 31 |
| John Lynch | 3 | 43 | 36 |
| Ronde Barber | 2 | 46 | 37 |
| Derrick Brooks | 1 | 34 | 34 |
| Brian Kelly | 1 | 9 | 9 |
| Shelton Quarles | 1 | 5 | 5 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Warren Sapp | 16.5 | 130.0 |
| Marcus Jones | 13.0 | 61.5 |
| Anthony McFarland | 6.5 | 44.5 |
| Ronde Barber | 5.5 | 40.5 |
| Chidi Ahanotu | 3.5 | 21.5 |
| James Cannida | 2.0 | 6.0 |
| Tyoka Jackson | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Shelton Quarles | 2.0 | 4.0 |
| Steve White | 2.0 | 11.0 |
| John Lynch | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| Derrick Brooks | 1.0 | 2.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Martin Gramatica | 28 | 34 | 82.4 | 55 | 42/42 | 100.0 | 126 |

# TENNESSEE TITANS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Steve McNair | 16 | 396 | 248 | 62.6 | 2847 | 15 | 13 | 83.2 |
| Neil O'Donnell | 6 | 64 | 36 | 56.2 | 530 | 2 | 3 | 74.3 |
| Frank Wycheck | 16 | 2 | 2 | 100.0 | 53 | 1 | 0 | 158.3 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eddie George | 16 | 403 | 1509 | 3.7 | 14 |
| Steve McNair | 16 | 71 | 404 | 5.7 | 0 |
| Rodney Thomas | 13 | 61 | 175 | 2.9 | 0 |
| Derrick Mason | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Neil O'Donnell | 6 | 9 | -2 | -0.2 | 0 |
| Lorenzo Neal | 9 | 1 | -2 | -2.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Frank Wycheck | 16 | 70 | 636 | 9.1 | 4 |
| Derrick Mason | 14 | 63 | 895 | 14.2 | 5 |
| Eddie George | 16 | 50 | 453 | 9.1 | 2 |
| Chris Sanders | 15 | 33 | 536 | 16.2 | 0 |
| Erron Kinney | 13 | 19 | 197 | 10.4 | 1 |
| Yancey Thigpen | 11 | 15 | 289 | 19.3 | 2 |
| Carl Pickens | 8 | 10 | 242 | 24.2 | 0 |
| Lorenzo Neal | 9 | 9 | 31 | 3.4 | 2 |
| Rodney Thomas | 13 | 8 | 35 | 4.4 | 1 |
| Kevin Dyson | 2 | 6 | 104 | 17.3 | 1 |
| Michael Roan | 1 | 3 | 12 | 4.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Derrick Mason | 51 | 662 | 13.0 | 69 | 1 |
| Yancey Thigpen | 1 | 9 | 9.0 | 9 | 0 |
| Denard Walker | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Derrick Mason | 42 | 1132 | 27.0 | 66 | 0 |
| Chris Coleman | 2 | 54 | 27.0 | 27 | 0 |
| Mike Leach | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | 10 | 0 |
| Lorenzo Neal | 1 | 15 | 15.0 | 15 | 0 |
| John Thornton | 1 | 16 | 16.0 | 16 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Samari Rolle | 7 | 140 | 81 |
| Dainon Sidney | 3 | 19 | 19 |
| Denard Walker | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Randall Godfrey | 2 | 25 | 24 |
| Perry Phenix | 1 | 87 | 87 |
| Michael Booker | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Keith Bulluck | 1 | 8 | 8 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Jevon Kearse | 11.5 | 55.5 |
| Kenny Holmes | 8.0 | 42.0 |
| Gregory Favors | 5.5 | 50.5 |
| Joe Salave'a | 4.0 | 23.0 |
| John Thornton | 4.0 | 32.0 |
| Eddie Robinson | 4.0 | 23.0 |
| Keith Embray | 3.5 | 22.5 |
| Randall Godfrey | 3.0 | 21.5 |
| Robaire Smith | 2.5 | 21.5 |
| Blaine Bishop | 2.5 | 13.0 |
| Henry Ford | 2.0 | 7.0 |
| Jason Fisk | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Samari Rolle | 1.5 | 9.5 |
| Terry Killens | 1.0 | 9.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Al Del Greco | 27 | 33 | 81.8 | 50 | 37/38 | 97.4 | 118 |
| Craig Hentrich | 0 | 1 | 0.0 | 0 | 0/0 | 0.0 | 0 |

# WASHINGTON REDSKINS

## PASSING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | CMP | PCT | YDS | TD | INT | RAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brad Johnson | 12 | 364 | 227 | 62.4 | 2505 | 11 | 15 | 75.6 |
| Jeff George | 6 | 194 | 113 | 58.2 | 1389 | 7 | 6 | 79.6 |
| Todd Husak | 1 | 2 | 2 | 100.0 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 79.2 |

## RUSHING

| PLAYER | G | ATT | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stephen Davis | 15 | 332 | 1318 | 4.0 | 11 |
| Larry Centers | 15 | 20 | 103 | 5.1 | 0 |
| James Thrash | 15 | 10 | 82 | 8.2 | 0 |
| Skip Hicks | 6 | 29 | 78 | 2.7 | 1 |
| Brad Johnson | 12 | 22 | 58 | 2.6 | 1 |
| Adrian Murrell | 10 | 20 | 50 | 2.5 | 0 |
| Jeff George | 6 | 7 | 24 | 3.4 | 0 |
| Irving Fryar | 14 | 2 | 16 | 8.0 | 0 |
| Tommy Barnhardt | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 0 |
| Champ Bailey | 4 | 1 | 7 | 7.0 | 1 |
| Mike Sellers | 8 | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 0 |
| Todd Husak | 1 | 1 | -1 | -1.0 | 0 |

## RECEIVING

| PLAYER | G | REC | YDS | AVG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Larry Centers | 15 | 80 | 600 | 7.5 | 3 |
| James Thrash | 15 | 50 | 653 | 13.1 | 2 |
| Stephen Alexander | 16 | 47 | 510 | 10.9 | 2 |
| Irving Fryar | 14 | 41 | 548 | 13.4 | 5 |
| Albert Connell | 16 | 39 | 762 | 19.5 | 3 |
| Stephen Davis | 15 | 33 | 313 | 9.5 | 0 |
| Adrian Murrell | 10 | 16 | 93 | 5.8 | 0 |
| Andre Reed | 8 | 10 | 103 | 10.3 | 1 |
| Michael Westbrook | 2 | 9 | 103 | 11.4 | 0 |
| Mike Sellers | 8 | 8 | 78 | 9.7 | 2 |
| Skip Hicks | 6 | 5 | 43 | 8.6 | 0 |
| Champ Bailey | 4 | 3 | 78 | 26.0 | 0 |
| Zeron Flemister | 2 | 1 | 8 | 8.0 | 0 |

## PUNT RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deion Sanders | 25 | 185 | 7.4 | 57 | 0 |
| James Thrash | 10 | 106 | 10.6 | 25 | 0 |
| Champ Bailey | 1 | 65 | 65.0 | 65 | 0 |

## KICK RETURNS

| PLAYER | NO. | YDS | AVG | LNG | TD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| James Thrash | 45 | 1000 | 22.2 | 49 | 0 |
| Adrian Murrell | 12 | 214 | 17.8 | 30 | 0 |
| Mike Sellers | 3 | 32 | 10.7 | 21 | 0 |
| LaVar Arrington | 1 | 39 | 39.0 | 39 | 0 |
| Skip Hicks | 1 | 17 | 17.0 | 17 | 0 |
| Deion Sanders | 1 | -1 | -1.0 | -1 | 0 |

## INTERCEPTIONS

| PLAYER | INT | YDS | LNG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Champ Bailey | 5 | 48 | 48 |
| Deion Sanders | 4 | 91 | 32 |
| Darrell Green | 3 | 35 | 33 |
| Sam Shade | 2 | 15 | 15 |
| Mark Carrier | 1 | 30 | 30 |
| Kevin Mitchell | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Matt Stevens | 1 | 0 | 0 |

## SACKS

| PLAYER | SACKS | YDS |
|---|---|---|
| Marco Coleman | 12.0 | 87.0 |
| Bruce Smith | 10.0 | 61.0 |
| LaVar Arrington | 4.0 | 7.0 |
| Dan Wilkinson | 3.5 | 26.5 |
| Kenard Lang | 3.0 | 33.0 |
| Dana Stubblefield | 2.5 | 10.5 |
| Shawn Barber | 2.0 | 19.0 |
| Eddie Mason | 2.0 | 1.0 |
| Kevin Mitchell | 1.0 | 7.0 |
| Sam Shade | 1.0 | 9.0 |
| Greg Jones | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| Derek Smith | 1.0 | 5.0 |
| Nolan Harrison | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Ndukwe Kalu | 1.0 | 8.0 |

## KICKING

| PLAYER | FGM | FGA | FG% | LNG | XPM/XPA | XP% | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eddie Murray | 8 | 12 | 66.7 | 47 | 7/8 | 87.5 | 31 |
| Kris Hepner | 10 | 15 | 66.7 | 45 | 17/17 | 100.0 | 47 |
| Michael Husted | 4 | 8 | 50.0 | 28 | 8/9 | 88.9 | 20 |
| Brett Conway | 3 | 3 | 100.0 | 26 | 3/3 | 100.0 | 12 |
| Scott Bentley | 1 | 1 | 100.0 | 50 | 0/0 | 0.0 | 3 |

# 2001 SCHEDULE

**ALL TIMES LOCAL**

## WEEK 1

**Sunday, September 9**

| | |
|---|---|
| Atlanta at San Francisco | 1:15 p.m. |
| Carolina at Minnesota | 12 p.m. |
| Chicago at Baltimore | 1 p.m. |
| Detroit at Green Bay | 12 p.m. |
| Indianapolis at New York Jets | 1 p.m. |
| New England at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| New Orleans at Buffalo | 1 p.m. |
| Oakland at Kansas City | 12 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Jacksonville | 1 p.m. |
| St. Louis at Philadelphia | 4:15 p.m. |
| Seattle at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Tampa Bay at Dallas | 12 p.m. |
| Washington at San Diego | 1:15 p.m. |
| Miami at Tennessee | 7:30 p.m. |

**Monday, September 10**

| | |
|---|---|
| New York Giants at Denver | 7 p.m. |

(Open date: Arizona)

## WEEK 2

**Sunday, September 16**

| | |
|---|---|
| Arizona at Washington | 1 p.m. |
| Atlanta at St. Louis | 3:05 p.m. |
| Buffalo at Miami | 1 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at Tennessee | 12 p.m. |
| Dallas at Detroit | 1 p.m. |
| Denver at Indianapolis | 12 p.m. |
| Green Bay at New York Giants | 1 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Chicago | 3:15 p.m. |
| Kansas City at Seattle | 1:15 p.m. |
| New England at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| New York Jets at Oakland | 1:15 p.m. |
| Philadelphia at Tampa Bay | 1 p.m. |
| San Francisco at New Orleans | 12 p.m. |
| Cleveland at Pittsburgh | 8:30 p.m. |

**Monday, September 17**

| | |
|---|---|
| Minnesota at Baltimore | 9 p.m. |

(Open date: San Diego)

## WEEK 3

**Sunday, September 23**

| | |
|---|---|
| Baltimore at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| Buffalo at Indianapolis | 12 p.m. |
| Carolina at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| Detroit at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Minnesota at Chicago | 12 p.m. |
| New York Giants at Kansas City | 12 p.m. |
| New York Jets at New England | 4:05 p.m. |
| Oakland at Miami | 1 p.m. |
| Philadelphia at Seattle | 1:15 p.m. |
| St. Louis at San Francisco | 1:15 p.m. |
| San Diego at Dallas | 12 p.m. |
| Tennessee at Jacksonville | 1 p.m. |
| Denver at Arizona | 5:35 p.m. |

**Monday, September 24**

| | |
|---|---|
| Washington at Green Bay | 8 p.m. |

(Open dates: New Orleans, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay)

## WEEK 4

**Sunday, September 30**

| | |
|---|---|
| Atlanta at Arizona | 1:05 p.m. |
| Baltimore at Denver | 2:15 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at San Diego | 1:15 p.m. |
| Cleveland at Jacksonville | 4:15 p.m. |
| Green Bay at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| Indianapolis at New England | 1 p.m. |
| Kansas City at Washington | 1 p.m. |
| Miami at St. Louis | 12 p.m. |
| New Orleans at New York Giants | 1 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Buffalo | 1 p.m. |
| Seattle at Oakland | 1:15 p.m. |
| Tampa Bay at Minnesota | 12 p.m. |
| Dallas at Philadelphia | 8:30 p.m. |

**Monday, October 1**

| | |
|---|---|
| San Francisco at New York Jets | 9 p.m. |

(Open dates: Chicago, Detroit, Tennessee)

## WEEK 5

**Sunday, October 7**

| | |
|---|---|
| Arizona at Philadelphia | 1 p.m. |
| Chicago at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at Pittsburgh | 1 p.m. |
| Green Bay at Tampa Bay | 4:15 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Seattle | 1:05 p.m. |
| Kansas City at Denver | 2:05 p.m. |
| Minnesota at New Orleans | 12 p.m. |
| New England at Miami | 1 p.m. |
| New York Jets at Buffalo | 4:05 p.m. |
| San Diego at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Tennessee at Baltimore | 1 p.m. |
| Washington at New York Giants | 1 p.m. |
| Carolina at San Francisco | 5:30 p.m. |

**Monday, October 8**

| | |
|---|---|
| St. Louis at Detroit | 9 p.m. |

(Open dates: Dallas, Indianapolis, Oakland)

## WEEK 6

**Sunday, October 14**

| | |
|---|---|
| Arizona at Chicago | 12 p.m. |
| Baltimore at Green Bay | 12 p.m. |
| Cleveland at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| Denver at Seattle | 1:15 p.m. |
| Detroit at Minnesota | 12 p.m. |
| Miami at New York Jets | 4:15 p.m. |
| New Orleans at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| New York Giants at St. Louis | 12 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Kansas City | 12 p.m. |
| San Diego at New England | 1 p.m. |
| San Francisco at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| Tampa Bay at Tennessee | 12 p.m. |
| Oakland at Indianapolis | 7:30 p.m. |

**Monday, October 15**

| | |
|---|---|
| Washington at Dallas | 8 p.m. |

(Open dates: Buffalo, Jacksonville, Philadelphia)

## WEEK 7

**Thursday, October 18**

| | |
|---|---|
| Buffalo at Jacksonville | 8:30 p.m. |

**Sunday, October 21**

| | |
|---|---|
| Atlanta at New Orleans | 12 p.m. |
| Baltimore at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Carolina at Washington | 1 p.m. |
| Chicago at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| Dallas at Oakland | 1:15 p.m. |
| Denver at San Diego | 1:05 p.m. |
| Green Bay at Minnesota | 3:15 p.m. |
| Kansas City at Arizona | 1:05 p.m. |
| New England at Indianapolis | 12 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay | 1 p.m. |
| St. Louis at New York Jets | 1 p.m. |
| Tennessee at Detroit | 1 p.m. |

**Monday, October 22**

| | |
|---|---|
| Philadelphia at New York Giants | 9 p.m. |

(Open dates: Miami, San Francisco, Seattle)

## WEEK 8

**Sunday October 28**

| | |
|---|---|
| Arizona at Dallas | 3:05 p.m. |
| Buffalo at San Diego | 1:15 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at Detroit | 1 p.m. |
| Indianapolis at Kansas City | 12 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Baltimore | 1 p.m. |
| Miami at Seattle | 1:15 p.m. |
| Minnesota at Tampa Bay | 1 p.m. |
| New England at Denver | 2:15 p.m. |
| New Orleans at St. Louis | 12 p.m. |
| New York Jets at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| Oakland at Philadelphia | 4:15 p.m. |
| San Francisco at Chicago | 12 p.m. |
| New York Giants at Washington | 8:30 p.m. |

**Monday, October 29**

| | |
|---|---|
| Tennessee at Pittsburgh | 9 p.m. |

(Open dates: Atlanta, Cleveland, Green Bay)

## WEEK 9

**Sunday, November 4**

| | |
|---|---|
| Baltimore at Pittsburgh | 1 p.m. |
| Carolina at Miami | 1 p.m. |
| Cleveland at Chicago | 12 p.m. |
| Dallas at New York Giants | 1 p.m. |
| Detroit at San Francisco | 1:05 p.m. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Indianapolis at Buffalo | 4:15 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Tennessee | 1 p.m. |
| Kansas City at San Diego | 1:15 p.m. |
| New England at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| Philadelphia at Arizona | 2:05 p.m. |
| Seattle at Washington | 4:15 p.m. |
| Tampa Bay at Green Bay | 12 p.m. |
| New York Jets at New Orleans | 7:30 p.m. |
| **Monday, November 5** | |
| Denver at Oakland | 6 p.m. |

(Open dates: Cincinnati, Minnesota, St. Louis)

## WEEK 10

| | |
|---|---|
| **Sunday, November 11** | |
| Buffalo at New England | 1 p.m. |
| Carolina at St. Louis | 12 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at Jacksonville | 1 p.m. |
| Dallas at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| Green Bay at Chicago | 12 p.m. |
| Kansas City at New York Jets | 1 p.m. |
| Miami at Indianapolis | 1 p.m. |
| Minnesota at Philadelphia | 4:15 p.m. |
| New Orleans at San Francisco | 1:15 p.m. |
| New York Giants at Arizona | 2:15 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| San Diego at Denver | 2:05 p.m. |
| Tampa Bay at Detroit | 1 p.m. |
| Oakland at Seattle | 5:30 p.m. |
| **Monday, November 12** | |
| Baltimore at Tennessee | 8 p.m. |

(Open date: Washington)

## WEEK 11

| | |
|---|---|
| **Sunday, November 18** | |
| Atlanta at Green Bay | 12 p.m. |
| Chicago at Tampa Bay | 1 p.m. |
| Cleveland at Baltimore | 1 p.m. |
| Detroit at Arizona | 2:15 p.m. |
| Indianapolis at New Orleans | 12 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Pittsburgh | 4:05 p.m. |
| New York Jets at Miami | 1 p.m. |
| Philadelphia at Dallas | 12 p.m. |
| San Diego at Oakland | 1:05 p.m. |
| San Francisco at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| Seattle at Buffalo | 1 p.m. |
| Tennessee at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| Washington at Denver | 2:15 p.m. |
| St. Louis at New England | 8:30 p.m. |
| **Monday, November 19** | |
| New York Giants at Minnesota | 8 p.m. |

(Open date: Kansas City)

## WEEK 12

| | |
|---|---|
| **Thursday, November 22** | |
| Green Bay at Detroit | 12:30 p.m. |
| Denver at Dallas | 3:05 p.m. |
| **Sunday, November 25** | |
| Arizona at San Diego | 1:05 p.m. |
| Atlanta at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| Baltimore at Jacksonville | 1 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Miami at Buffalo | 1 p.m. |
| New Orleans at New England | 4:05 p.m. |
| Oakland at New York Giants | 4:15 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Tennessee | 12 p.m. |
| San Francisco at Indianapolis | 1 p.m. |
| Seattle at Kansas City | 12 p.m. |
| Washington at Philadelphia | 1 p.m. |
| Chicago at Minnesota | 7:30 p.m. |
| **Monday, November 26** | |
| Tampa Bay at St. Louis | 8 p.m. |

(Open date: New York Jets)

## WEEK 13

| | |
|---|---|
| **Thursday, November 29** | |
| Philadelphia at Kansas City | 7:30 p.m. |
| **Sunday, December 2** | |
| Arizona at Oakland | 1:15 p.m. |
| Carolina at New Orleans | 12 p.m. |
| Dallas at Washington | 4:15 p.m. |
| Denver at Miami | 1 p.m. |
| Detroit at Chicago | 12 p.m. |
| Indianapolis at Baltimore | 1 p.m. |
| Minnesota at Pittsburgh | 1 p.m. |
| New England at New York Jets | 1 p.m. |
| St. Louis at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| San Diego at Seattle | 1:05 p.m. |
| Tampa Bay at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| Tennessee at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Buffalo at San Francisco | 5:30 p.m. |
| **Monday, December 3** | |
| Green Bay at Jacksonville | 9 p.m. |

(Open date: New York Giants)

## WEEK 14

| | |
|---|---|
| **Sunday, December 9** | |
| Carolina at Buffalo | 1 p.m. |
| Chicago at Green Bay | 12 p.m. |
| Cleveland at New England | 1 p.m. |
| Detroit at Tampa Bay | 1 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| Kansas City at Oakland | 1:15 p.m. |
| New Orleans at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| New York Giants at Dallas | 12 p.m. |
| New York Jets at Pittsburgh | 4:15 p.m. |
| San Diego at Philadelphia | 1 p.m. |
| San Francisco at St. Louis | 12 p.m. |
| Tennessee at Minnesota | 12 p.m. |
| Washington at Arizona | 2:05 p.m. |
| Seattle at Denver | 6:30 p.m. |
| **Monday, December 10** | |
| Indianapolis at Miami | 9 p.m. |

(Open date: Baltimore)

## WEEK 15

| | |
|---|---|
| **Saturday, December 15** | |
| Arizona at New York Giants | 12:30 p.m. |
| Oakland at San Diego | 1 p.m. |
| **Sunday, December 16** | |
| Atlanta at Indianapolis | 1 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at New York Jets | 1 p.m. |
| Dallas at Seattle | 1:15 p.m. |
| Denver at Kansas City | 12 p.m. |
| Green Bay at Tennessee | 3:15 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Cleveland | 1 p.m. |
| Miami at San Francisco | 1:05 p.m. |
| Minnesota at Detroit | 1 p.m. |
| New England at Buffalo | 1 p.m. |
| Philadelphia at Washington | 1 p.m. |
| Tampa Bay at Chicago | 12 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Baltimore | 8:30 p.m. |
| **Monday, December 17** | |
| St. Louis at New Orleans | 8 p.m. |

(Open date: Carolina)

## WEEK 16

| | |
|---|---|
| **Saturday, December 22** | |
| Miami at New England | 12:30 p.m. |
| Philadelphia at San Francisco | 1 p.m. |
| Tennessee at Oakland | 6 p.m. |
| **Sunday, December 23** | |
| Buffalo at Atlanta | 1 p.m. |
| Chicago at Washington | 1 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at Baltimore | 1 p.m. |
| Cleveland at Green Bay | 12 p.m. |
| Dallas at Arizona | 2:05 p.m. |
| Detroit at Pittsburgh | 1 p.m. |
| Jacksonville at Minnesota | 3:15 p.m. |
| New Orleans at Tampa Bay | 1 p.m. |
| St. Louis at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| San Diego at Kansas City | 12 p.m. |
| Seattle at New York Giants | 1 p.m. |
| New York Jets at Indianapolis | 8:30 p.m. |

(Open date: Denver)

## WEEK 17

| | |
|---|---|
| **Saturday, December 29** | |
| Baltimore at Tampa Bay | 9 p.m. |
| **Sunday, December 30** | |
| Arizona at Carolina | 1 p.m. |
| Atlanta at Miami | 1 p.m. |
| Buffalo at New York Jets | 1 p.m. |
| Chicago at Detroit | 1 p.m. |
| Cleveland at Tennessee | 12 p.m. |
| Indianapolis at St. Louis | 12 p.m. |
| Kansas City at Jacksonville | 1 p.m. |
| Minnesota at Green Bay | 12 p.m. |
| New York Giants at Philadelphia | 1:05 p.m. |
| Oakland at Denver | 2:15 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh at Cincinnati | 1 p.m. |
| San Francisco at Dallas | 12 p.m. |
| Seattle at San Diego | 1:15 p.m. |
| Washington at New Orleans | 7:30 p.m. |

(Open date: New England)

By Larry Weisman

## THE LAST WORD

# Haste Makes Waste Of League Stability

A little advice for the NFL's six new head coaches: Don't get too comfortable in that chair. It's really an ejector seat.

For all the braying about free agency destroying the fabric of the good ol' NFL, there's a more insidious force at work that weakens the fibers that bind: haste. It shows up primarily in the high-speed dispatching of coaches and resonates throughout the system.

Patience was the last virtue. Now it's the lost one. As the 2001 season approaches, only 11 head coaches hold the same job they did at the dawn of 1998. In the AFC East, every coach except Indianapolis' Jim Mora has been replaced. The only NFC East holdover is the Giants' Jim Fassel. Cleveland goes into its third season with its second coach, Butch Davis.

Not every change can be blamed on an owner whose fuse is shorter than Daniel Snyder. The New York Jets, for example, squeezed a few seasons out of Bill Parcells, but then embarked on a chain of succession that would send the Hapsburgs into peals of laughter. When Parcells stepped down, he tried to hand off to Bill (I Quit Right Now) Belichick but settled for Al (I Quit After One Year) Groh. Which leaves the Jets today with Herman Edwards, who admits feeling as if he has replaced Parcells, not Groh.

Elsewhere, the change is deliberate. Kansas City gets its third coach (Dick Vermeil) in four years, following Gunther Cunningham and Marty Schottenheimer. Cleveland bailed on Chris Palmer and his 5-27 record with a two-year-old expansion franchise.

Whence came this itch to switch? In part from the 1995 expansion that brought Carolina and Jacksonville into the NFL. Because the league gave them extra draft choices and didn't restrict their free-agent spending, the Panthers and Jaguars roared into the playoffs in their second seasons. They raised not only every team's costs in chasing free agents, but the expectations for quick success as well.

Once upon a time, coaches talked about having a timetable to reach established goals. The joke was that the plan always matched the length of their contract—a four-year plan, a five-year plan. Now the marathon is reduced to 16 games in some cases. Ray Rhodes got one season in Green Bay, Cunningham two in Kansas City. Chan Gailey won the NFC East in his first season with Dallas and slipped into the playoffs his second, only to get fired. The Cowboys had one coach over their first 29 seasons, but four in the 12 years of Jerry Jones' peripatetic ownership.

*Jones has booted a few coaches in his 12 years as Cowboys owner.*

This lack of permanence creates other disturbances. Only three offensive coordinators from 1998 are in the same job today. Same number of defensive coordinators, too. In 1998, Foge Fazio ran Minnesota's defense. Last year he coached Washington's linebackers. Today he's drawing up new schemes for Cleveland. While this may help Fazio's frequent-flyer accounts, it hardly gives him a chance to teach a system.

Sure, the transience caused by free agency also plays a part, but let's get real. In most years, no more than 120 players change teams—out of 1,750 in the league. That's about four per team, and not all of those who hit the highway are wanted by their old teams. Perhaps if coaches could stay put, players might thrive in one spot and not eyeball greener turf quite so much.

In the spring of 1999, the Redskins gave up first-, second- and third-round draft picks to acquire quarterback Brad Johnson. Remember the key people in that deal? One was Washington general manager Charley Casserly, dismissed soon after and now running the Houston Texans expansion team. Another was Norv Turner, deposed as coach after last year's death spiral. He is San Diego's offensive coordinator now and the supposed heir to Mike Riley's shaky throne.

Johnson, despite a Pro Bowl season in '99, never got his wish for a contract extension and never really bowled over Vinny Cerrato, Washington's former player personnel director. Cerrato's two-year tenure ended shortly after Schottenheimer stepped in as the new coach and powerbroker in January. Johnson, still peeved at Redskins owner Snyder for signing and backing Jeff George, skipped off to sign with Tampa Bay.

It would take 10 years to accomplish that much upheaval on *All My Children*. The Redskins did it in less than two.

A word to these impatient NFL types who cannot stop to think, plan and execute. Let time be your ally. Remember, the great oak grows from a single nut. So does the great ache.

---

*Larry Weisman, NFL beat writer for* USA Today, *has been covering pro football since 1978.*

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